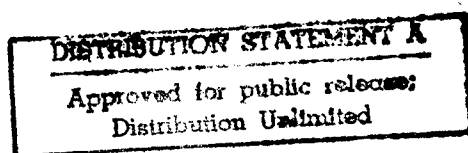


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31 October 1985

# Latin America Report



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31 October 1985

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INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

VENEZUELAN-BRAZILIAN BORDER DEMARCATION

PA302331 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 27 Sep 85

[Venezuelan Foreign Ministry communique issued in Caracas, date not given--  
read by announcer]

[Text] In regard to the information published today by the newspaper EL NACIONAL, in its column "Thursday's Screen," which is written by journalist Abelardo Reilly, the Foreign Ministry reports the following:

Notice of the placement of the Brazilian flag at La Neblina Peak on 25 August, on soldier's day, was given to the Foreign Ministry through a communique dated 27 August from our ambassador in Brazil and duly registered at the Foreign Ministry by the General Directorate for Borders.

It is appropriate to recall that the Venezuelan-Brazilian Mixed Commission has been working since 1980 to demarcate our limits. Relations have remained excellent so far, and the commission's fiftieth conference was held last year. Venezuela has always safeguarded the integrity of its historical territory.

The Venezuelan-Brazilian Mixed Commission, which is in charge of demarcating our limits, has carried out various campaigns to demarcate the sector of the La Neblina mountain range area. The border in that sector is currently demarcated at an average distance of 5 km between each boundary stone. (Phelps) Peak is the highest peak at approximately 2,095 meters, and it is used as a point of reference in the border area. The governments of Venezuela and Brazil ratified this geographic point by placing a plaque on both sides of the monument built there, boundary point VB-5, with the following inscription: "Venezuela, (Phelps) Peak--Brazil, 31 March Peak."

The mountains which comprise the Sierra La Neblina include four heights, which received the names of (Phelps) Peak, Zuloaga, Cardona, and Neblina. The first three serve as a dividing line, together with the Baria River of Venezuela, a branch of the Pasimoni River, and the Cauaburi River of Brazil, a branch of the Negro River.

La Neblina Peak, with a height of 3,014 meters and geographically located south of the former three, in Brazilian territory, is located approximately 680 meters from the river border between the two countries. Consequently, La Neblina Peak is part of Brazilian territory.

CSO: 3348/46

31 October 1985

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

CHILE, ARGENTINA APPROVE PERMANENT ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

Santiago EL MERCURIO in Spanish 28 Aug 85 p C-5

[Text] The Embassy of Argentina announced yesterday the decree establishing in that country the Executive Secretariat of Economic Cooperation and Physical Integration with Chile. In a related development, it was announced that the first meeting of management officials of the two countries will be held in Santiago, coinciding with FISA 85 [Santiago International Fair, 1985].

In the meanwhile, in Punta Arenas, the formation of a permanent economic commission at the management level and the creation of a data bank for updated information on plans and projects for integration between the two countries in the Magellan Straits zone was recommended.

The Embassy statement on the new organization, added that it will be chaired by Ambassador Raul Alconada Sempe, undersecretary for Latin American affairs of the Argentine foreign office.

The creation of this secretariat in the two countries was provided for in article 12 of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship signed 29 November 1984 and ratified in May of this year.

The Argentine president, Raul Alfonsin, has directed that the body operate under the direct supervision of the minister of Foreign Relations and Worship.

It will be made up of the undersecretary for Latin American Affairs, who will preside, the undersecretary for Southern and Neighboring State Affairs and the undersecretary for International Economic Relations.

The decree referred to provides that the duties of the Executive Secretariat shall include developing national policies and strategies relating to bilateral relations with Chile; coordinating all aspects of overall policy between the two countries, as well as following up and integrating advances made in matters within their competence; informing itself concerning all developments which, at the national, regional, provisional and/or municipal level may relate to matters within their competence, and approaching various public and private organizations for information necessary for the carrying out of their duties.

## Mixed Management Meeting at Upcoming Santiago 85 International Fair

Members of the Argentine and Chilean committees, which constitute the management integration group at this level for both countries, will meet here in Santiago from 3 to 5 November, coinciding with the holding of FISA, the Santiago International Fair.

This will be the first meeting, since the signing of the standing rules governing the operations of the committees of both countries, for the purpose of establishing integration, the concept originating from the signing of the Peace and Friendship Treaty, and brought into being with papal assistance. The standing rules mentioned were ratified and signed at a meeting held in Buenos Aires between the 22nd and 24th of this month.

Basically, the document provides that the management committees of the two countries shall be the mechanism for energizing the exchange of information, identifying new trade opportunities, orchestrating a joint effort of cooperation and industrial supplementation, and suggesting to the respective governments measures and methods to facilitate the interchange.

### Commission on Southern Integration to be Created

PUNTA ARENAS--The formation of a permanent economic commission was one of the final decisions announced yesterday at the conclusion of the conference organized by the Foundation for the Development of the Magellan Straits Zone, which was attended by officials of government, the private sector and the church from the far south regions of Chile and Argentina.

The committee will be permanent and the agreements which are to be adopted will be reported to the governments of the two countries at the local and central levels, and, in particular, to the Binational Commission.

It was also resolved to establish a project information clearing house to advise of existing programs in the zone and those to be put into effect at a future date. A data bank will also be established, and some study will be made of the positive aspects of the fact that both countries face the foreign debt problem together.

It was agreed "not to duplicate research on subjects with which the researchers or students of the southern regions were already familiar, and to review studies jointly.

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CSO: 3348/952

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

PEDEVESA TO RENT CURACAO OIL REFINERY

PA260345 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 25 Sep 85

[Text] The Venezuelan Government has decided to have PEDEVESA [Petroleos de Venezuela, S.A.] participate in the exploitation of coal in the Guasare area and to rent the Curacao oil refinery for 5 years.

Through a decree that amends the original PEDEVESA statutes, the enterprise will join a mixed enterprise in coal exploitation in Zulia Department. The government made this decision in May. This PEDEVESA statute amendment, which will be published in the official gazette in the next few days, will allow the organization to acquire shares from CORPOZULIA [expansion not given]. These shares belong to CORPOZULIA and the Venezuelan Investment Fund [Fondo de Inversiones de Venezuela].

In another important decision announced by Hernan Anzola, deputy energy and mines minister, a letter of intent was approved which will be sent to the Netherlands Antilles and Curacao Governments. According to the letter, PEDEVESA will rent the Curacao oil refinery for 5 years.

[Begin Anzola recording] The fundamental terms are to rent the refinery and island's deep water terminal for 5 years. The lease can be extended for an additional 2-year term through the payment of \$11 million every year. [end recording] This government investment in Curacao will allow Venezuela to export its petroleum from this terminal in supertankers to Europe and the Far East, reducing transportation costs and improving competitiveness in those markets.

CSO: 3348/46

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

COLOMBIAN OIL MINISTER REQUESTS TECHNICAL AID

PA011547 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 27 Sep 85

[Report by Berta Gomez]

[Text] Colombian Mines and Energy Minister Ivan Duque Escobar and the president of ECOPETROL [Colombian o Petroleum Enterprise] met today with Venezuelan Mines and Energy Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti. The three men met to discuss Colombia's oil future and the continuation of the technical aid Venezuela offers Colombia through CORPOVEN [a subsidiary of Petroven]. The following is a statement by the Colombian Mines and Energy Minister expressing his views on the meeting:

[Begin recording] Colombia has just created the Colombian Institute of Petroleum. This institute will be a technical institute for the development of the oil industry. Since Venezuela has great experience in this area, it is only natural that we ask Venezuela for its technical help as very special aid for the development of our Colombian Institute of Petroleum. We have received much efficient aid in this area, and we hope to continue receiving this aid in the next few months. [end recording]

In addition, the Colombian mines and energy minister said that his country will be self-sufficient in its oil requirements by the first half of 1986 and will be considering the possibilities of exporting oil by the second half of next year.

CSO: 3348/46

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

BRIEFS

BOLIVIAN, ARGENTINE GAS NEGOTIATIONS--Bolivian minister of energy and hydrocarbons, Orlando Donoso, reported yesterday that the negotiations between Argentine and Bolivian authorities on the latter's exports of natural gas to the neighboring country have concluded successfully. Both countries agreed to maintain the price and amount of gas exports, although Argentina is in the position of having reserves. The minister discussed the results of the negotiations held in Buenos Aires, where a Bolivian delegation met the Permanent Committee created to deal with the export of natural gas. He stressed that, although the neighboring country has enough gas reserves to export, the price and the amount of gas involved in the transactions will not change. The sale price is set at \$4.70 per thousand cubic feet and approximately 220 million cubic feet are sold per day. By the end of 1985, the total value of the natural gas exports will be approximately \$330 million. [Excerpt] [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 28 Sep 85 p 1]

NEW IA-ECOSOC PRESIDENT--Paraguayan Industry and Commerce Minister Delfin Ugarte Centurion was unanimously chosen as president of the Inter-American Economic and Social Council, IA-ECOSOC, for the 1985-86 period, according to a report from Washington, D.C. [Excerpt] [Asuncion PATRIA in Spanish 24 Sep 85 p 9 PY]

CSO: 3348/46

BAHAMAS

TRIBUNE FINDS PINDLING BESET BY 'MYRIAD PROBLEMS'

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 14 Sep 85 pp 1, 13

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

**PRIME MINISTER** Lynden Pindling has hit the campaign trail in Eleuthera following a week of political and labour upheavals.

With less than five weeks to go before the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference, a myriad of labour problems developed this week.

On Monday, teachers at RM Bailey High School started a week-long sit in to protest the appalling conditions at the public school. Among other things, the staff complained about a classroom, furniture and teacher shortage. Lessons were being conducted outside because there were no furnished classrooms available. The action ended yesterday when the school received furniture for a new block of six classrooms.

Also on Monday, Customs walked off the job at Arawak Cay, preventing businesses from collecting everything but perishable items from the docks.

The work stoppage ended yesterday when Mrs Margaret McDonald, secretary to the Cabinet, assured their union that efforts will be made to relocate them.

Customs union leader Arlington Miller said the situation will be monitored for a week. He hoped that officers would not have to take action again.

On Thursday, Batelco middle management at a crunch meeting instructed their union president to file a dispute with the Ministry of Labour over a delay

in negotiating a new industrial contract.

And on Thursday night, BEC demanded a strike vote because of a delay in contract negotiations. Their agreement expired about a year ago.

While the labour situation was heightening, the National General Council of the governing PLP party perhaps faced one of its most embarrassing moments when it voted not to renominate Cooper's Town MP Hubert Ingraham, ostensibly for using Parliament as a forum to condemn party members the Commission of Inquiry found were involved with drug traffickers and criticising Government on the neglect of the Family Islands.

In 1980 Mr Ingraham spoke out strongly in Parliament against the neglect of the islands and the poor school situation without reprisals.

While Mr Ingraham has been punished for speaking out against corruption in Parliament, the PLP has done nothing about disciplining those members who were found wanting by the Commission.

Sir Lynden, whom the Commission found deposited \$3.5 million, excluding government salary and allowance, along with Lady Pindling during a seven year period, is still in control of the party. Of the \$3.5 million the Commission, which was appointed to investigate drug trafficking, could not identify the source of deposits of \$181,000.

The Commission also determined that Sir Lynden wound up with \$200,000 of a payment either Sorkis Webbe or Victor Sayaah made to his friend, Everette Bannister. Webbe has been identified in Parliament as a mafia associate.

As if to underscore the country's turbulent state of affairs, the trial of 20-year-old Kevin Hanna, who is accused of murdering his mother, father, two sisters and one brother last August 6, opened in the Supreme Court this week.

While Government is spending an estimated \$15-\$20 million on the Commonwealth Conference, no major effort is being made to upgrade the schools. The problem at RM Bailey is symptomatic of that of many other schools in the country.

Education Minister Paul Adderley recently announced that he did not want to see any child leave school, unless there were exceptional mitigating circumstances, who is unable to read and comprehend the English language and at the same time "communicate in that language effectively and intelligently."

If this "law" is applied, it could possibly result in literally hundreds of school children being held back.

For example, a group of seven RM Bailey students visited The Tribune this week to complain about the teacher sit-in. The one that was elected for spokesperson, a prefect, said:

"This the second week and we ain't write not yet. I ain't know what these teachers are on strike for. The children them didn't have any classrooms and

the teachers done locked their rooms and they were in a staff meeting."

Meanwhile, Sir Lynden moved at a PLP rally Tuesday night to prevent the Customs problem from growing when he apologised for the conditions they must work under.

"It's true what they say," he said of the reports of poor working conditions.

Sir Lynden said Government would do the best it could to try and find appropriate premises. However, he gave no date and made no commitments.

In June, 1983, Customs officers staged a work stoppage for the same reason. They returned to work following an assurance that something would be done to rectify the problem. Repairs were carried out, but the corroded steel structured building is in such an advanced state of deterioration that, many feel, it should be abandoned.

Meanwhile, Sir Lynden is campaigning against apartheid in South Africa while neglecting to address the more burning issues facing the Bahamas - something he tends to do when the pressure is on, or in the period leading up to an election.

He told the Tuesday night rally that black men in South Africa are not allowed to have a sexual relationship with white women and spoke, in detail, about the racial discriminatory policies.

This weekend, he is in North Eleuthera with party chairman Sean McWeeney, Charles Carter (Holy Cross), Peter Bethel (St John's) and George Mackey (St Michaels), according to ZNS Radio.



BAHAMAS

PLP DISSIDENT REFUSES PARTY DEMAND FOR APOLOGY

Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Sep 85 pp 1, 4

[Article by Athena Damianos]

[Text]

COOPER'S Town MP Hubert Ingraham refused to apologise last night for condemning party members who, the Commission of Inquiry found, were involved with drug traffickers, and for speaking out on the neglect of the Family Islands in Parliament.

He will not be given the PLP's nomination to seek re-election as a result.

"I cannot repudiate right and truth. I cannot do that," Mr Ingraham, who has the support of his Cooper's Town constituents, said today.

He told the National General Council that the conditions under which they claimed he would be renominated were unacceptable.

Under the conditions, Mr Ingraham would have to acknowledge in writing that he:

(1) Demonstrated questionable judgment in using the House as a forum for the condemnation of his colleagues;

(2) Apologise, and

(3) Refrain from publicly attacking, abusing or defaming members of Parliament and the party.

"The PLP has determined that it does not wish me to be its candidate in the next general election. I believe that I have a contribution to make and I don't propose to sit the next election out," Mr Ingraham said today.

"I don't propose to sit on the sideline while political judgments are made..."

Asked if he intends to run as an Independent in the next election, he replied: "I'm not prejudging anything."

"All I'm prepared to say is I don't intend to sit twiddling my fingers during the general election or the period leading up to it. I intend to be very active."

In June, Mr Ingraham threatened to put names to the faces of criminally connected persons within the PLP. Two days later, the House was suspended for an unprecedented five month "summer recess" at the wish of Prime Minister Lynden Pindling. House members have more latitude in what they can say in the House because their words are protected by parliamentary privilege. They are not protected by the same privilege for words spoken outside of the House.

Asked if he still intends to expose what he called the "criminally connected", Mr Ingraham said: "I propose to honour all of my promises. In due course, things will fall into place. They won't fall into place by accident, but by plan."

Asked if, in his opinion, the NGC's action against him is an indication that the party condones corruption among certain members, he replied: "The PLP party cannot condone corruption. The PLP is comprised of thousands of PLPs throughout the Bahamas. The NGC is the supreme council, but it is not the party. The party is made up of thousands of PLPs and (these) PLPs don't condone corruption!"

Asked if, in his opinion, his "sentence" is an indication that the NGC condones corruption among its favoured few, Mr Ingraham said: "The NGC, which has the constitutional responsibility to see that discipline is maintained and that members do not act in a manner that is detrimental to the party, is regrettably failing to carry out its constitutional duty to PLPs by continuing to refuse to deal with the matters highlighted in the Commission of Inquiry report and, as a member of the PLP, I will continue to agitate" in this regard.

ZNS Radio reported on today's 1 pm newscast that Mr Ingraham may not be re-nominated because he did not comply with the Council's "option." However, based on the Council's decision, Mr Ingraham will not be re-nominated.

Mr Ingraham was convicted of his "crime" by a vote of 74 to six.

The Prime Minister sat in the back of the room during the NGC meetings where he had a view of how Council members voted.

It is understood that only three Cabinet Ministers - Sir Lynden, Darrell Rolle and Clement Maynard - were present when the vote was taken. Three backbenchers - Arthur Hanna, Sinclair Outten and Perry Christie - voted against the motion.

It is understood that a number of backbenchers, including Moses Hall and Bradley Roberts, were absent. Backbenchers James Moultrie and Valentine Grimes were seen outside the building at the time the vote was taken.

St Michael's MP George Mackey supported Sir Lynden's motion.

On April 1, Mr Mackey said in Parliament: "No man should ever take precedence over the party...The country is more important than our party."

Milo Butler Jr, who heads a Parliamentary committee investigating drug trafficking and abuse, also supported Sir Lynden's motion.

Mr Butler told The Tribune April 1: "I am Milo Butler Jr and I stand for justice for all."

Of the eight people who filed complaints with the PLP Disciplinary Committee against Mr Ingraham, it is understood that:

- Thomas Basden's elevator company has Government contracts;

- Teleta Strachan has a Government-issued taxi licence plate;

- Brave Davis has a taxi plate and is deputy chief of fire at Nassau International Airport,

- Calvin Lockhart is employed at Bahamasair, and

- Tanya Rose is employed with National Insurance. Mrs Rose is Council member for St Agnes. Her MP, Kendal Nottage, "whether he realized it or not," fronted for a mafia figure, the Commission of Inquiry found.

Andrew "Dud" Maynard, another complaine, accepted a payment from a drug trafficker on the basis that he would use his political influence to help him, the Commission said. Additionally, Maynard's M&D charter air service acquiesced in drug trafficking through Norman's Cay.

And Percy Munnings, according to Mr Ingraham, has reportedly positioned himself at odds with Government's declared and legislated policy on gambling.

Members of the Disciplinary Committee, which recommended that Mr Ingraham be punished, are all, to some extent, economically dependent on Sir Lynden's goodwill.

For instance, Sen Edwin Coleby, chairman of the Committee, is employed at Government's Bahamas Electricity Corporation. Sir Lynden's buddy, Felix "Mailman" Bowe, has a franchise for several scooter rental businesses and runs a shop at the Government-owned Cable Beach Hotel.

Joe Delaney and Clifford Rahming reportedly have taxi licence plates.

Granville "Smiley" Butler has a franchise for a tour operation and rents a building on the Western Esplanade from the Ministry of Works where he runs a restaurant.

Maureen Gay Miller has at least one taxi plate. Leroy Ferguson had and possibly still has a contract for a mail boat service.

BAHAMAS

PAPER QUESTIONS SINCERITY OF PLP CLAIM TO DEMOCRACY

Freeport THE FREEPORT NEWS in English 15 Aug 85 p 2

[Editorial: "The Easy PLP Ride"]

[Text]

You have to read between the lines but the admission is nevertheless plain that the ruling Progressive Liberal party — whether by design or inadvertently — created a system which has convinced many that membership card in the PLP represented a passport to a better life.

And those without, constituted a second class of citizens to whom the doors to opportunity in far too many instances remain securely shut.

Ironically these damaging admissions came from the new PLP chairman Sean McWeeney August 9 as he attempted to tell Young Liberals attending their third annual convention in the capital, that constitutional liberties flourished under the government of Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling.

"Make no mistake about that," said Mr. McWeeney, "Constitutional liberties have flourished under the PLP rule and that is the acid test for all democracies in this and every other age. It is a test that we have passed and continue to pass with the highest of honours to the credit of our party and to the glory of our nation."

But in the next breath the PLP chairman notes that under all this freedom and democracy one set of people — those with the ruling party — were perhaps freer than others by virtue of their political membership.

The Commission of Inquiry left little doubt in anyone's mind that there were many who used close PLP connections to some political figures to further their own devious ends to the detriment of the PLP and the nation.

They are among those who flashed their Party badge like a weapon to accomplish their own selfish objectives and perhaps it was to those that the Party chairman meant to direct his remarks.

"If we subscribe truly to democratic principles and wish to refine our democracy, if we believe firmly in the value of freedom and wish to enhance that freedom, if we are pledged genuinely to the pursuit of national excellence, then, two attitudes are going to have to change," said Mr. McWeeney.

He said firstly the attitude that if you're not a PLP, you're not entitled to anything and you should not get anything has to change.

And the second attitude that must undergo change he said is the notion that membership card in the PLP is a passport to a job or scholarship, a Development Bank Loan or a government contract; the notion that you needn't have to be concerned with having any other qualification or credential; that all you should have to do is flash the Party badge and you're in for a free ride, an easy ride, to wherever you want to go and to whatever you want to have.

"The notion that scholarship and taxi-plates and shop licences and low-cost housing grants and government contracts are for PLP's and PLP's alone; that anything and everything is the gift of the Government for PLP's and PLP's alone. That is a morally and politically indefensible proposition under a democratic system of Government and the sooner we turn our backs on it the better off we will be," said the PLP Chairman.

Others have been saying the same thing for a number of years. The Government in its wisdom choose to ignore them. Perhaps those in the seat of power will be more disposed to pay attention now that the PLP chairman has admitted the moral and political indefensibility of a system which allow party members to profit at the expense of those who may hold opposing views.

Such a system will lead as we have seen-to unbridled corruption. Can the PLP now change the prevailing attitude as called for by McWeeney. These are attitudes which the PLP failed to do anything to correct and in some cases actively encouraged.

CSO: 3298/019

BAHAMAS

BRIEFS

UNION UNREST--Told that nothing had been heard from management on contract negotiations, or the Ministry of Labour, with which a labour dispute was filed August 30th, angry members of the Bahamas Electricity Utility Managerial Union last night demanded a strike vote. This decision follows within a day of Bahamas Telecommunications Management Union instructing their president to file a dispute with the Ministry of Labour. Like the electrical workers, BaTelCo middle management say that negotiations for a new industrial agreement have broken down. Their contract expired a year ago - September 30, 1984. The electrical staff also say that their three-year contract with BEC expired a year ago - September 31, 1984. [Excerpt] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Sep 85 p 1]

CUSTOMS WORKERS DISPUTE--A four-day-old "sit-out" by officers of the Customs Department came to an end at 12 noon today. Customs workers, who have agreed to return to the dilapidated offices at the Arawak Cay facility, were accepting payment and releasing entries as usual today. Business resumed at all the city's docks, at the Parcel Post Department of post office, and at all the custom brokerage firms. The President of the Bahamas Public Services Union, Mr Arlington Miller, told The Tribune that officers went back to work following a meeting held between officers of the union, and the Secretary of the Cabinet, Mrs Margaret McDonald, this morning. "Everything is now being looked at," said Mr Miller. "We will monitor the situation for a week, and we hope that in that week we will know exactly what will be done, and hopefully we will not have to take that kind of action again." [Excerpts] [By Lyn Sweeting] [Nassau THE TRIBUNE in English 13 Sep 85 p 1]

FNM DEMAND ON SCHOOLS--All three Grand Bahama based Opposition-Free National Movement parliamentarians in a joint press statement issued Tuesday expressed shock and anger over the general upkeep and lack of supplies at Government schools on Grand Bahama and called on the Government, through the Ministry of Education, to immediately correct this situation. They stated that if these conditions are allowed to continue that kids will be leaving the educational system as educated cripples. The three Grand Bahama based FNM Members of Parliament making that joint statement were High Rock M.P. Mr. Maurice Moore; FNM Chairman and Pineridge M. P. Mr. Cecil Wallace Whitfield and FNM Shadow Minister of Education and March City M.P. Mr. C. A. Smith. In a three-page press statement issued to the media early Tuesday afternoon, the Opposition

said that surely the Progressive Liberal Party Government cannot complain that there is a lack of money to keep the schools in habitable condition. They made reference to the upcoming Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference noting that if the Government can find millions of dollars to host the conference, and \$1 million to buy cars to drive the heads of states around, then they "Must be alable to spend thousands for their own children's education." They called on Education Minister Mr. Paul Adderley to quickly remedy this situation. [Excerpt] [By Simon Lewis] [Freeport THE FREEPORT NEWS in English 3 Sep 85 p 1]

CSO: 3298/019

BARBADOS

OVER 2,100 JOBS LOST, MAINLY IN GARMENTS, ELECTRONICS

Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 6 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

Recession in the North American computer markets and a drop in regional trade have resulted in the loss of 2 100 jobs in the local industrial manufacturing sector.

The Barbados Industrial Development Corporation said yesterday that the major job losses occurred in the electronics and garment sectors with some shrinkage in the furniture industry.

Earlier this week, Microdata, an electronic manufacturing firm, announced that it would be closing down its operations here, another big manufacturer, Corcom, has laid off most of its staff, keeping only a skeleton management staff.

The IDC states that during the first two years of the Strategic Five Year Development Plan, 1983-88, IDC-assisted manufacturing industries generated 2 316 new jobs in the local economy against a target of 2 220 new jobs.

"However, the impact of IDC's performance in job creation has been significantly reduced by the effects of the recession in the North American computer markets and the decline in CARICOM trade which have caused the loss of some 2 100 jobs in IDC assisted industries."

The IDC stated that despite the continuing difficulties confronting the manufacturing sector, there are a number of positive signs of resurgence and investor confidence which augur well for the future of industrial development in Barbados.

The corporation's record indicates that during the three month period April-June this year, overseas investor-client interest was high, and 40 potential investors representing 26 companies visited Bar-

bados to investigate investment opportunities.

This level of client enquiry by foreign investors in the first quarter is to be compared with the 55 overseas companies which sent representatives to Barbados during the entire year 1983-84 and the 49 companies, showing interest during the period of 1982-83.

"Moreover, in the April-August period, several potential investments were realised and others moved closer to fulfillment," the IDC said.

A new electronics plant-BEL Tronics started operations yesterday at Newton Industrial Park employing 40 people, this number could rise to 100 by yearend. The United States firm - P S I International which will produce large-sized polypropylene bags for the packaging and export of cement will soon start operations.

In addition to these, the IDC said, a high fashion producer of up-market knitwear is expected to start production for the United States and French markets by the end of next month, and two data processing firms are expected to open by year end.

The IDC added that three electronics firms from the United States and Puerto Rico have successfully concluded joint-venture and sub-contracting arrangements with local partners which should reduce job losses in this sub-sector.

"Among indigenous manufacturers, there are pleasing indications of increased activity, evidenced by the 18 small and medium sized producers who are seeking IDC factory space to establish or expand their operation.

"This activity has been most pronounced in the furniture, food processing, agro-industry, printing, plastics extrusion, electronics, and garment areas," the IDC statement said.

BARBADOS

BRIEFS

KOREAN ENVOYS' DEPARTURE—Bridgetown, 27 Sep (CANA)--The ambassadors of North and South Korea to Barbados paid farewell calls on government officials here over the past few days to formally wrap up their diplomatic posting here. South Korean envoy Sun Sup Chang, resident here for the past year and a half, promised acting Foreign Minister David Simmons that on his return home he would seek to promote bilateral cooperation and encourage more businessmen to invest in Barbados. North Korean Ambassador Pak Ri Hyon, in a farewell meeting with Simmons, suggested that Barbados should consider sending a mission to Pyongyang to learn how to extract cotton from the island's abundant limestone resource [as received]. Hyon, who was based in Guyana, said Korean technologists had developed the process and it was an area presenting an opportunity for cooperation between the two countries. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 2132 GMT 27 Sep 85 FL]

CSO: 3298/020



BELIZE

REPORTER REAPPEARS, VOWS FIGHT FOR FREEDOM OF PRESS

Belize City THE REPORTER in English 8 Sep 85 p 2

[Editorial]

[Text]

WE'RE BACK! And we want to thank our reading public for keeping the faith and for providing all that moral support at a time when we needed it most.

The court order for massive damage awards against the REPORTER had us reeling for a while. We were forced to interrupt our publishing service in order to break up a hostile and cynical attempt to deal the newspaper a death blow, and to alert international circles to the alarming deterioration of our justice mechanisms under the former Chief Justice Mr. George Moe.

We still have to embark on some serious fund-raising measures, but the way ahead now seems clear. We hope, with the continued support of our readers and advertisers, to turn our misfortune to advantage and to emerge a better and stronger newspaper.

We have had time to reflect that one reason the politicians in our country have been able to impose upon us so grievously is because the Constitution of Belize does not recognize the function of the free press as an instrument of democratic development. The Constitution sets out in full the rights and liberties of the individual but makes no provision for the freedom of the press. The courts have been able to hold, in the absence of specific provision, that politicians are people, and that as people they enjoy the same rights and privacy that other private people enjoy.

This kind of logic protects the politician from the glare of public scrutiny. It also makes it risky and

hazardous for a newspaper to ask questions, to probe for the truth or to expose corruption.

In the recent case of *Musa vs the Reporter*, the newspaper was taken to task for asking a series of questions which sought to probe into the financial activities of the former government minister.

In Los Angeles and in New York we discussed this predicament with leaders of the Belize community and together we resolved that the free newspapers of Belize should combine their efforts to work for a constitutional amendment which would specifically recognize the freedom of the press to watch over our public officials and our public institutions.

The people and government of Belize have already agreed that one constitutional amendment is necessary to restore the right of citizenship to many who have been disfranchised under the 1981 Constitution. As Belize develops and grows and as our emerging democracy takes root we will doubtlessly come across other areas of the Constitution which call for clarification and amendment.

The great United States has had a similar experience. The First Amendment, submitted to Congress in 1789 along with twelve others, was introduced in order to prevent "misconstruction or abuse" of the constitutional powers. The preamble to the resolution argued that the amendments would "extend the ground of public confidence in the government (to) best ensure the beneficent ends of its institution." It stipulated that Congress "shall make no law... abridging the freedom of speech or of the press".

Later Supreme Court rulings have interpreted this to mean that people in public office do not have the option of using their high office or to invoke the country's libel laws to harass the press or to prevent the glare of public scrutiny from focusing on their public activity.

One eminent jurist, Chief Justice Stoby put the principle well. "In a democracy" he said, "the right of the press to criticize the conduct of public men is readily treated as one of the great safeguards of a free society".

The press not only has the right to criticize; it also has the right to ask questions of men and women in public office.

The task this newspaper has set for itself is this: to work ceaselessly for a constitutional recognition of the rights and duties of the free press in Belize. We shall set out with a broad front of popular support to persuade the government of the day that the freedom of the press is an important area of democracy-development which needs to be recognized by the highest authority in the land.

In the weeks immediately ahead we propose to develop a draft proposal which we will then introduce as a community petition for consideration by the House of Representatives and the Senate.

If we succeed with this project, and we have every intention of succeeding, we would consider the efforts of the last six weeks to be time and effort well spent. We would also feel a lot more confident about the ability of our country to survive the slings and arrows which lay ahead and to emerge as a truly democratic nation of the Americas.

BELIZE

BRIEFS

THOMPSON HOSPITALIZATION--The Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon. Curl Thompson, has been admitted to the Belize City Hospital this week to undergo observations and treatment for a blood pressure problem. Hospital authorities also wanted to check out the cause of a slight heart murmur which they detected on their ECG machine. Mr. Thompson, who entered the Hospital on Monday and was still interned up to Friday midday, has been seeing a steady stream of friends and relatives and is in high spirits. The Prime Minister, Mr. Esquivel, went to the hospital to visit Mr. Thompson on Monday afternoon before embarking for Venezuela and Panama. [Text] [Belize City THE REPORTER in English 15 Sep 85 p 7]

UK REVIEW OF DEFENSE FORCE--A review team from the British Ministry of Defense has been holding discussions in Belize on the organization, and plans for the future of the Belize Defence Force. Major James Porter of the British Army and Group Captain Peter Eustace of the Royal Air Force spent a week in Belize and met with the Prime Minister and the Minister of Defence, Mr. Manuel Esquivel. The Prime Minister is reported to have told the team that he wants the BDF to be as capable as possible within a restricted budget. Today's BDF is costing the country something in the area of \$7 million a year, or approximately 7.2 per-cent of the country's total domestic revenue. [Text] [Belize City THE REPORTER in English 8 Sep 85 p 5]

ECONOMIC 'CRISIS'--At an earlier press conference, the Prime Minister Mr. Manuel Esquivel predicted that by September the economy would turn around. Well this is now September and the big news is that the International Monetary Fund is in town digging into the financial accounts of the government. According to an unconfirmed report, the Esquivel Government has failed to limit the expenditure in the public sector as called for by the programme. There is a reported \$7 million unfinanced gap. The Government is having difficulty meeting its payroll while Ministers run their Ministries with no concern about the serious economic crisis. The high level of wasteful expenditure continues unabated. The situation is a gloomy one with unemployment at its worse ever in a decade. In June, Esquivel said it was too soon. Wait for September, said he. All we have now is the prediction of his Minister of Energy and Communications Israel Alpuche that a devaluation "no esta lejos." (Is not far off.) [Excerpt] [Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 8 Sep 85 p 1]

GOVERNMENT LAYOFFS--More than one hundred workers at the Public Work Department are receiving dismissal notices terminating their services at the end of the

31 October 1985

month. As would be expected from the quivel Government, most of these employees are known PUP supporters. These employees are the first of an estimated 300 open vote workers who will be dismissed and who now join the growing unemployment list. Early last month, the IMF is said to have recommended a package of austerity measures which include huge lay offs in the public service, 50% reduction in overtime, 35% reduction in mileage allowance and strict monthly ceilings per officer. [Text] [Belize City THE BELIZE TIMES in English 15 Sep 85 p 1]

SALE OF STATE BANANA ACREAGE--Belmopan, Tues. Sept. 3--Some 2,200 acres of state-owned banana plantations in the Cowpen area of southern Stann Creek district are being sold to private growers. Natural Resources Minister Dean Lindo today revealed that the sale of the plantations is almost completed. The plantations are being sold to six banana growers and a cooperative of ten smaller farmers. Over the past thirteen years, the banana industry lost more than \$17 M. Former Bank of Nova Scotia Manager, Mr. Craig Griffith, was recently appointed as Manager of the Banana Control Board. Minister Lindo said that the BCB's financial position "has now improved." He had high words of praise for Mr. Griffith. Government will be making arrangements to pay off the industry's outstanding debts. [Text] [Belize City AMANDALA in English 6 Sep 85 p 32]

CSO: 3298/021

BERMUDA

ELECTION SPECULATION FOCUSES ON 'WHEN,' NOT 'IF'

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 20 Aug 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

Election campaign machinery of both major political parties is creaking back into life as speculation mounts about a fall election.

Premier the Hon. John Swan has given no notice he has any intention of calling an early poll, but it is believed the question he is now considering is whether to have an election before or after the New Year.

While Mr. Swan does not need to call an election until 1988, he obviously believes he would benefit from an early poll. Some suggest the UBP could take an additional four seats to raise its total to 30 out of 40 places in the House of Assembly.

The question is not if there will be an early election, but when. Some would argue that it could be as early as next month, or October, so that the election would not interfere with the work of Parliament which resumes in November.

Others argue that nobody in Bermuda wants an election right now. The Country appears to be on the road to a more stable economic environment, and hardly needs the unsettling effect of a General Election.

Proponents of this argument suggest that the election could come as late as February, when it would interfere least with the business of the Country.

Critics would argue that a February date would be too late, with Mr. Swan risking losing the support he now has.

There is also the possibility that Mr. Swan would encourage speculation about a February election to confuse political opponents.

Whether the election is called in September or February of next year, the stage appears to have finally been set. All that needs to be set is a date.

BERMUDA

NEW, THIRD POLITICAL PARTY FORMED, COMES UNDER FIRE

Impact on Political Scene

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 22 Aug 85 p 4

[Editorial]

[Text]

The expected announcement of a third political party this weekend is an event of political significance, and probably of historical importance for Bermuda. If the party which splintered from the PLP turns out to have any strength at the fast-approaching polls it can change the face of Bermudian politics.

It is an important milestone in a lengthy and bitter row which split Bermuda's oldest political party and has already affected the daily working of Parliament.

The expelled Progressive Labour Party rebels always maintained their break was influenced by a belief in freedom of speech.

They complained they were being disciplined for daring to speak out against the policies and leadership of Mrs. Lois Browne Evans.

The Supporters for Change promised their cornerstone would be the basic philosophy of freedom of speech and promised they would be changing the political map of Bermuda and bringing a new look to the Island's political scene.

Therefore, it is disappointing to see the new party, on the eve of its official launch, cynically attempt to manipulate Bermuda's media.

Supporters for Change spokesman Mrs. Kathleen Bell has warned that the new group will be asked to impose a news black-out on information about the policies and platform of the newly-formed party. She ex-

plained the information would not be released until the Thursday following the formation of the third party, in order to give the weekend newspapers the same opportunities as the daily newspaper, the radio stations and the television station.

She said this was being done to ensure that all the media had a fair opportunity. She said the group would probably announce its name only immediately after its workshop this Saturday.

This does seem to be a blatant attempt to withhold information from the public for five days in order to maximise publicity for the new group.

Politicians frequently attempt to manipulate the media in Bermuda — some more subtly than others. That is certainly nothing new.

Premier the Hon. John Swan, Finance Minister the Hon. Clarence James and Tourism Minister the Hon. Irving Pearman have already been accused of sustaining a campaign of "good news propaganda" in case there is an autumn General Election.

Business leaders have agreed the economy shows signs of improving but Opposition politicians have expressed fears that a smoke screen is being created to boost the popularity of Government.

Only this week Shadow Finance Minister Mr. Eugene Cox said he was concerned that an overly rosy picture of the economy was being painted for political ends.

It is disappointing for a fledgling political party to fail so miserably in setting a standard when freedom was a motivating force in its very creation.

Perhaps, despite the rhetoric, the new party is just as cynical and made in the same mould as the existing parties. Yet its supporters claim to have turned their backs on existing structures.

Probably the public will not be waiting for next Thursday when the new party promises to unveil the political platform and policies.

Experience shows that people who withhold information they want ultimately to convey, wind up with a Page Seven "damp squib".

The PLP's smoothly-oiled publicity machine is adept at grabbing the headlines in a slow news period and knows very well that

all the media looks for a story on a Sunday. Senator David Allen remained with the PLP but the change group appears not to have learned from his lessons and the UBP has never found anyone to match his talents.

Indeed, the indications are that the new party's platform will reflect very little new thinking. Old faces with new names are refusing to tell the public something it has a right to know.

The cynics will always reply, "Well, what did you expect? The new party is being formed by politicians trained in the existing parties." We had hoped for something better.

But it does clearly illustrate that whatever the third party does achieve, it is not starting to break the mould of Bermudian politics. If it does not, it cannot achieve a constituency and it will fail.

#### Leader's Remarks

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 26 Aug 85 p 1

#### [Text]

Officials of the newly formed National Liberal Party of Bermuda yesterday announced the Island's third political party had been formally launched at a private weekend workshop.

Supporters of the new party will be meeting this week to hammer out final details of their constitution and platform.

Leader Mr. Gilbert Darrell MP said: "The United Bermuda Party is supposed to be primarily business oriented, and the Progressive Labour Party is supposed to be labour oriented. We are in between.

"The existing two parties find it difficult to bring the two sides together.

"The UBP represents the banks and financial institutions and the PLP finds it difficult to get that kind of input. We think we are going to provide an opportunity for a little meetings of the minds.

"When you look at our platform you will see that we have attempted to spell out how we are different from the other parties."

He said they were confident there was a pretty high level of support in the community for the new party.

The party has been quietly launched almost a year after six PLP rebels were

expelled from the Opposition party in a row over the leadership of Mrs. Lois Browne Evans.

It already boasts four MPs who have been sitting as Independents since their split from the PLP.

Mr. Darrell said: "We are moving cautiously. We think it's going to take a little bit of time and nobody wants to rush into anything.

"We have a lot of faith that we can ultimately be successful. We are taking the attitude that we don't want to be the Opposition as we think we are going to be Government material."

He dismissed fears a third party was doomed after the last attempt to break away from the two parties, the Bermuda Democratic Party failed to win support from voters.

Mr. Darrell said: "That was quite some time ago. I would say things are a little bit different now. We are certainly going to do our damndest to prove these people wrong.

"At the present time we are in a position to accept membership and start building that up. We have now got our officers elected, and we are now saying let's get active and responding to some of the problems out there.



31 October 1985

"The Island is in an election scare and I think our attention is going to be in that direction, trying to get ready and organised. We hope to be in a position to find some candidates to run if there is a general election this year."

Public relations officer Mrs. Kath Bell said: "The name should clearly define our differences from the United Bermuda Party and the Progressive Labour Party."

"National, meaning we are concerned that Bermudians become the number one priority in our own country, and liberal,

meaning to believe in the equality of all people, representative Government and freedom of expression."

She added: "The next thing we do is release our platform and take it and the party to the people on their doorsteps."

She said Mr. Clyde Bassett had been elected party chairman, and Mr. Darrell was leader of the Parliamentary group.

"We have also elected a secretary, assistant secretary, treasurer and assistant treasurer, but these names don't need to be released to the public at this stage."

### Implications for Senate

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 27 Aug 85 p 5

#### [Text]

This week's formation of the National Liberal Party of Bermuda (NLP) could soon spark calls for a major change around in the Upper House of the Island's Legislature — the Senate.

The fledgling third political party already boasts four MPs in the House of Assembly and its supporters believe they should now have at least one voice in the Senate.

But complicated red tape changes would be required before they could be represented on the 11-strong body which takes a second look at all legislation.

Clerk to the Legislature, Mr. John Gilbert, said a Constitutional Conference would have to be called and then Parliament would have to amend the Parliamentary Election Act of 1978.

"It raises a very interesting question," he said. "Obviously this situation was overlooked when the Constitution was drawn up."

The Governor appoints all Senators, but the Premier is able to nominate five people, the leader of the Opposition is allowed to suggest three and the Governor picks three independents.

Said Mr. Gilbert: "I cer-

tainly feel something should be done about this as now the group has declared itself a party, and obviously it should be represented.

"When the Constitution was drawn up this situation wasn't foreseen."

NLP public relations officer Mrs. Kathleen Bell said: "The Senate should be based on proportional representation and if the present Constitution does not allow for it, then the Constitution should be brought up to date.

"The composition of the Senate should reflect the will of the people and if the difference between the number of seats held by the two parties is very small, then the Senate should reflect that."

She added: "If, after the next General Election, the PLP have the smallest number of seats, they are still going to be representing a proportion of the population and that voice should be heard in the Senate."

United Bermuda Party officials privately believe the three Opposition seats in the Senate should be regarded as a prize for the party which becomes the official Opposition.

But any calls for a change to the make-up of the Senate are likely to be delayed while there is talk of an early poll to see if the new party can win sufficient seats to justify constitutional tinkering.

Premier the Hon. John Swan was reluctant to discuss possible future changes.

He said: "It's not something I have addressed myself to, and it's something that would require a Constitutional Conference and representations from all parties."

PLP public relations officer Sen. David Allen said: "I think we have got a sound system now where the largest group nominates the largest number of Senators, and the second largest group nominates the next largest number."

"I think the new party has literally got to earn its stripes at the hustings, and shouldn't expect to have everything given to them on a silver platter."

"But I think it's a moot point as I don't think they are going to be holding any seats after the next General Election. It's a hypothetical debate as they aren't going to be around for more than a few months."

## PLP Reaction

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 27 Aug 85 p 5

[Text]

Progressive Labour Party officials yesterday attacked the fledgling National Liberal Party of Bermuda (NLP) and warned it could weaken Opposition forces.

They complained the NLP, which was officially launched in private at the weekend, could split opposition to Government policies.

PLP chairman Mr. Alex Scott said the new party would also help the PLP as many of its original supporters would return to their ranks rather than join a third party.

"A third force is not going to be a progressive development for Bermuda politically. We are going to have to be watchful and vigilant that damage isn't done to the political arm of the labour movement.

"If they begin to reverse some of our gains by supporting Government then the labour movement will have been hurt by their formation. We have to be careful they don't take on a spoiler's role," he said.

"They are reckoning to take out the PLP and that is counter-productive. A vigilant and aggressive Opposition makes for good Government.

"If they are going to do damage to that force by their existence, then Bermuda will lose."

He added: "This helps the PLP as it consolidates our support. Not all of the PLP Supporters for Change have gone over to the third party.

"Some say they still want reform and they still want to see changes made but they want to see it happen inside the PLP.

"Bermudians may find out that if this third party enjoys any success it's at their cost.

"Any support for the third party will not be support for that strong Opposition which Bermudians have always said gives them good Government."

He warned the new party faced slim pickings if it was looking for supporters in the area between the United Bermuda Party and the PLP.

PLP public relations officer Sen. David Allen said the new Party had been losing supporters the closer it came to formally becoming a third party as people returned to the PLP.

He said: "Any division of the labour movement in Bermuda is a backward step and I think more and more people are relising that. Premier the Hon. John Swan insisted the new party was not a threat to the UBP and said its formation showed healthy democracy in action.

"Our system gives each person the right of freedom of expression and the right to make their own decision, and that to me is more important than whether we have one, two, three or four parties."

NLP public relations officer Mrs. Kathleen Bell said: "I think the PLP weakened the Opposition forces when they expelled four of their most valuable Parliamentarians."

■ The NLP will reveal its platform at a Press conference on Thursday.

## PLP Call for Support

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 30 Aug 85 p 1

### [Text]

Progressive Labour Party leader Mrs. Lois Browne Evans yesterday called on labour supporters to turn their backs on the newly formed National Liberal Party.

"As rumour persists of yet another general election, I call upon all supporters of Labour to stand solidly behind the Progressive Labour Party and to support us in our endeavours to place a strong labour team in Parliament."

In a Labour Day statement she stressed the PLP was the way forward for working men and women,

and she warned against divisive splits, without once mentioning the NLP by name.

"Our party stands committed to labour and all who realise that their interests are best represented by labour.

"It is vital that the working men and women of Bermuda support their labour unions and take the torch of labour onto greater heights in the vastly improved era of technology that lies ahead.

"We must not allow anti-labour propaganda to undermine our belief that labour will have an important role to play in the future. Labour

is not passe. Labour is now and on into the future.

"At a very crucial moment in the early history of the Bermuda Workers' Association, the first labour organisation in Bermuda, another dissident group of four surfaced and were expelled."

She said Dr. E.F. Gordon, a founder of the Island's trade union movement, warned the Labour movement should be watchful of infiltrators, who were reluctant to accept discipline and who would bolt to form their own group.

## Discussion of Platform

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 30 Aug 85 p 3

### [Text]

The National Liberal Party of Bermuda yesterday publicly unveiled its carefully prepared blueprint for governing the Island but admitted it was composed of borrowed ideas.

Officials of the new party crowded into a House of Assembly committee room to reveal their plans — five days after the party was privately launched.

Parliamentary group leader Mr. Gilbert Darrell MP said: "I don't think the platform itself is substantially different from the Progressive Labour Party, or the United Bermuda Party.

"The attraction is going to come from us, ourselves," he said as he sat beside the group's three other MPs and the newly appointed party officials.

"I think the community, after having 20 years of the

other two parties is now ready to see a new group that will hopefully be able to carry out the changes in its platform.

"I can't recall any big differences in our platform."

The group explained its roots lay firmly in the Progressive Labour Party, but it had developed after six dissidents were expelled from the Opposition for challenging leader Mrs. Lois Browne Evans.

Chairman Mr. Clyde Bassett said: "It became clear to us that there was community support for a new party. A party with liberal, middle of the road views, a party which represents Bermudians as a people, a party which could be fair and responsible.

"We intend to represent Bermuda's interests by promulgating policies which

will bring us all together."

But the PLP has already complained the NLP is a hollow imitation of their party, and some political observers have already dubbed the NLP as the Non- Lois Party.

The party promised it would not be hiding behind a slick public relations campaign and their new Public Relations Officer Mrs. Kathleen Bell insisted she was really just a party spokesman.

But she deftly dodged a radio newsman's suggestion that a *Royal Gazette* editorial complaining about a five day news blackout, had been unfair.

She replied it had been unfortunate, but not unfair, and insisted the newspaper was entitled to its opinion. She said she had not even bothered to ask for a right of reply to the editorial.

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The party promised to revise taxation, and labour laws, to enhance good industrial relations, to promote tourism, small businesses and an Economic Forum.

It promised to encourage international companies, but Mr. Darrell insisted subsidiaries of South African companies would be ordered to cease using Bermuda as their base.

Their platform promised to encourage farming, fishing and local crafts to promote natural local resources.

It complained the present school system was unsatisfactory and promised a comprehensive system, standardisation of school facilities and equipment and a national cultural centre.

Granting Bermudian Status would be suspended

until the national direction of the Country had been discussed, and a Joint Parliamentary Select Committee would be set up to implement the Archibald Report recommendations.

Mr. Walter Brangman, Shadow Minister of Works and Housing, Environment, Industry and Technology, and Community Affairs said the party would promote cheaper housing.

But he warned there could soon be a housing glut, and already more homes were advertised in the newspaper each day.

Mr. Lionel Simmons said the Motor Car Act would be amended to allow friends and relatives to borrow cars, and public transport would be improved to tackle traffic problems.

Treasurer Mr. John Rankin said party members would be charged a once only \$3 fee to join the party,

and cash would be raised through fund raising events.

Mr. Austin Thomas, Shadow Minister of Labour and Home Affairs, Tourism and Education said: "We are not interested in being a good Opposition — we are looking to become Government."

But PLP public relations officer Sen. David Allen said: "One is tempted to think they have leaped through the PLP platform and subtracted this and that from it."

"Their platform is a hollow imitation of the PLP. It has very little original thought in it, and little in the way of specific suggestions. There are no nuts and bolts."

"It's a bit sparse and they have not succeeded in staking out the middle ground," he said.

#### Criticism of Tax Plan

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 30 Aug 85 pp 1, 3

[Article by Phil Perinchief]

[Text]

The Pembroke West Bye-election is illustrative of the fact that the so-called dissidents can only succeed in scavenging PLP votes and weakening the traditional progressive forces generally. They cannot gain UBP votes, but rather, on the contrary, can only increase its support.

They are the enemy within. They are the tool of those who have always opposed progressive change and equality in this country. The UBP welcomes their presence, because, as far as it is concerned, these self-interested frustrated people are a god-send. A sorry lot of political naivetes!

No matter what their differences are with certain personalities within the PLP, how could these dissidents sleep with their consciences, knowing that they are attacking an institution that has consistently stood for progress in this country?

Their actions are akin to biting the hand

that fed them. They seek to kill the sacred cow, from whom they only so very recently bountifully drank and sheltered beneath.

The PLP's traditions, principles, aims and track record stand head and shoulders above any dissident, or present PLP member or group of members. Shame! Shame! Shame!

#### POLITICAL PARASITES

If we follow the presence and role of those dissidents, in the context of a General Election, the following scenario becomes clear.

All of the areas we now consider PLP strongholds (ones hard-fought for and protected by PLP, in the interests of the working class) will be weakened by dissidents manoeuvres. These strongholds may even fall to the UBP. The ones considered to be marginal will be handed over to the UBP camp, as a result of the selfish ambitions of the dissidents.

UBP strongholds will become unassailable and put out of reach of the progressive forces forever. The UBP shall reign supreme! This, essentially, sums up the role and the effect of the dissident group. They will have a negative impact on the progressive movement in this country.

Let us discuss who these people are; how they evolved; whose support they seek and what they expect. But first, let us preface those remarks by saying that, ironically, they are a result of the progressive changes that the PLP has brought about during the years of its existence.

The two existing parties were not sufficient to assuage the selfish, personal ambitions of these egotistical individuals. Neither will any new party.

Many of these dissidents and their supporters, as with John Swan and his faithful followers, walked through doors that THEY never opened. These doors were opened by the Dr. Gordon movement; the Campaign For Universal Adult Suffrage (CUAS), the Bermuda Dockworkers' Union, with Joe Mills, etc, and the BIU, and brothers and sisters, who put their feet in the street.

In short, these dissidents and their supporters are the inheritors and beneficiaries of other people's sacrifices and efforts and, when faced with a response from Bermuda's reactionary security forces, will shrink back and fade from sight, only to emerge again, when the dust has settled. They are parasites, par excellence!

#### FAITHLESS MIDDLE CLASS

These are the people who seek to bring about change in this country. The question goes begging, "for whom"?

The dissidents were responsible for the shift to the right in the PLP. A shift away from the working class, whose support they must depend on, for their electoral ambitions.

Clearly, the class they seek to devote their programmes to ultimately, are a narrow-based and volatile group. This faithless, middle-class element will move into the upper-class and adopt the mentality at the first financial windfall.

Their next political move will be to join the UBP, in spirit if not in fact. They often are too cowardly to expose themselves in open support for one party or the other.

On the other hand, whenever this middle-class element experiences financial reverses, it will become the strident voice of the PLP, until their personal fortunes begin to improve once more. Whereupon, they will attempt to move the working class movement to the right, with themselves firmly in control of the helm, of course!

They now believe themselves strong enough to form a third party, the National Liberal Party (NLP), and are presenting themselves as the vanguard of the democratic forces.

What this dissident group and their supporters expect is really quite simple. They expect to occupy the role of middle-management. A kind of brokerage house of political brinkmanship, whereby they will attempt to soften the harsh edge of the right-wing policies of the UBP and "cool-out" or temper the forceful upward thrust of the legitimate expectations of the exploited working class. In short, they wish to be all things to all men, at all times.

Supreme liberals! Who will "release the cap" on the effervescence of the working class, in order to threaten the UBP and "tighten the cap", in their design to gain personal benefits, when the UBP accedes to their demands.

They will do more damage to the progressive movement, than the UBP can ever do.

#### UNLIKELY COALITION

Let us examine their chances of success, in the overall political areas.

Supposing John Swan calls an election in November, 1985. Then the National Liberal Party will have four months to find sufficient numbers of committed and capable people (financially and otherwise) of a calibre acceptable to their electorate, to contest and win at least 22 of the contested districts, in order to becoming the government of the day.

In order to become the official opposition, and assuming the PLP can retain the present 10 seats it has, the NLP will have to gain at least 11 seats. An unlikely coalition government will result. That is, presuming they retain their present four, they must gain seats from the PLP or UBP strongholds.

The above will have to be achieved, after recruiting and training a large number of new people, to erect branches, canvass, prepare leaflets, etc.

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Their programmes must find acceptance in a fairly narrow electorate of dissatisfied PLP and UBP supporters, whose loyalties and sympathies remain deeply rooted in their traditional parties. No matter what the problem, dissatisfied UBP supporters vote solidly UBP even in a bye-election.

The NLP, as far as progressive change is concerned, are the enemy within, and must be stopped. Their primary focus is not to defeat the UBP. It is simply to attack and destroy the PLP and, by this method, hopefully adopt or inherit the support of the working class.

In short, their arrogant, elitist and parasitic nature will not permit them to genuinely work towards earning this support, over a period of time. Their intentions are to win it

quickly, by default.

The destruction and confusion that this dangerous manoeuvring and posturing will cause in the progressive movement is for the moment ineluctable, but nevertheless certain.

The next government, under these circumstances, will be handed over to the UBP on a silver platter! Therefore, the call and message to all genuine progressives in this country is very clear. STAMP OUT THE NLP!, or watch this country slide inexorably to the right!

(Editors Note: This article was written in early August, but missed the deadline for *The Workers Voice* at that time. We have used editorial licence in referring to the dissidents in the second part of the article as the newlyformed National Liberal Party).

### Labor Objections

Hamilton THE WORKERS VOICE in English 13 Sep 85 pp 6, 8

#### [Text]

National Liberal Party MP Mr. Austin Thomas last night accused the Premier of building a personality cult and being little more than an international showpiece posturing out of his class.

Mr. Thomas, in a pre election call to arms, attacked the two other parties for sterile political squabbling.

He told a City Hall, Hamilton, audience of nearly 100 the fledgling party had "divine" backing.

"This party has not come into being by chance. I am convinced that this new political thrust is divinely ordered to put an end to the rot which is eating away the political soul of Bermuda.

"I am convinced that we have a very special role to play in breaking down political, social and economic barriers in our land," he said.

The two main political parties had created bitterness and contempt and divided the country. The NLP was fed up with the confrontation style of politics, he said in a wide-ranging speech to the party's first public meeting.

"We must change the direction in which our country is headed. We do not need experts to tell us what is wrong.

"We refuse to believe that the UBP is the only political party capable of giving responsible, dynamic leadership to Bermuda and that only those

who join their ranks have Bermuda's interests at heart," he said.

The NLP would support any idea that was good for Bermuda, regardless of from whom it came.

He slammed Premier the Hon. John Swan's style of government as an abomination.

"We despise the building of political personality cults. The strength of the nation must be in the reflection of the will of the people, not the individual who holds the rein at a particular time," he said.

Mr. Thomas also lashed Progressive Labour Party leaders, who he accused of suppressing free debate and of abusing and politically castrating its MPs.

He called for a revamp of immigration laws to better protect Bermudians and for more support and encouragement for young people.

"Ministers of Government and political leaders should be willing to sit with students and defend Government policies or their personal positions relating to particular issues," he said.

Earlier, prospective Parliamentary candidate Mr. Charles Jeffers accused the United Bermuda Party of promising everything and delivering nothing.

"The present Government must bear the major portion of blame for the disenchantment of the Bermudian voters," he said in his first public speech for the party.

Promises had been made to unify the Bermuda College, to build a National Stadium and a cultural centre and to solve the Island's transport problems.

"Promises, promises, promises... Maybe the UBP should be called the PPP. How can the Government justify building two prisons when the Premier himself admits that there is a shortage of funds to keep the long-standing promises to move the sub-standard College facilities to Stonington and to build an adequate sports complex?" he asked.

### NLP Attack on Swan

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 20 Sep 85 p 1

#### [Text]

Businessmen yesterday warned National Liberal Party plans to introduce income tax would be an economic disaster for Bermuda.

The NLP unveiled its platform and revealed it was in favour of a radical overhaul of the tax system, banning companies with South African financial links and introducing comprehensive education into schools.

The Progressive Labour Party immediately dismissed the NLP platform as a hollow imitation of their own ideas, and lacking any original thoughts.

The platform says the NLP will seek to represent the majority view of all Bermudians.

Officials promised the party would not hide behind a slick public relations campaign and vowed Parliamentary leader Mr. Gilbert Darrell was not afraid to speak the truth.

But businessmen privately believe his call for income tax will cost the fledgling party any chance of electoral support. The PLP has flirted with the idea but always lacked the courage to solidly back income tax.

Chamber of Commerce President Mr.

Leonard Gibbons said: "It would be disastrous. It would stifle private enterprise.

"The machinery for collection of income tax is so expensive to operate and it would basically violate our agreements with all international companies."

He added the present hospital levy and employment tax were almost a form of income tax, but the existing system left tourists to pay the bulk of taxation.

The NLP platform promised to revise the hospital levy, employment tax, customs duties, estate tax and land tax and introduce equitable systems of taxation, based on a taxpayer's ability to pay.

Mr. Darrell, Shadow spokesman on Finance and Legislative Affairs explained the present taxation did not go far enough, and they planned an extension to the system.

"It sounds very much like income tax, but there are any number of systems that can be implemented," said Mr. Darrell, who has been a long-time advocate of income tax.

PLP public relations officer Sen. David Allen said the party had promised it would not introduce income tax during its first term of Government.

BERMUDA

UNION BLASTS GOVERNMENT FOR WORK PERMIT ABUSES

Hamilton THE ROYAL GAZETTE in English 12 Sep 85 pp 1, 2

[Text]

Government's continued failure to enforce immigration laws poses the greatest challenge to labour relations in 1986, according to the Bermuda Industrial Union.

Union bosses yesterday told *The Royal Gazette* that Bermuda's pool of manpower, particularly youths, would continue to experience difficulty finding jobs unless Government stopped employers from abusing immigration policy.

"One of the most serious problems that will impact on labour relations immediately and throughout 1986 is Government's failure to implement immigration policies that will protect Bermudians, yet still facilitate the business community," said chief union organiser Mr. Robert Johnston.

"The current policy is leading to considerable hardship among the unemployed. The anger generated therein could come to the fore in the next year or so."

Home Affairs and Labour Minister the Hon. Sir John Sharpe was off the Island yesterday. But Chamber of Commerce president Mr. Leonard Gibbons said that the current discussion paper on immigration and labour now being considered would go a long way to allay the Union's fears.

Mr. Johnston cited the on-

going Castle Harbour/Marriott labour disputes as the worst example of the type of problems experienced today.

A Government investigation, precipitated by a Union complaint, determined that foreign tradesmen working for the Forth-Ryco Construction Co. Ltd., carrying out a multi-million dollar re-fit at the hotel, were working outside their job categories.

Sir John sent Forth-Ryco a letter of warning, and the situation has since been rectified.

"The underlying premise appears to be that employers feel satisfied that most foreigners would stand by them in times of difficulty," said Mr. Johnston. "The work permit is his big stick."

He underscored the fact that the problem was nothing new, but that it had not been resolved was cause for concern. Foreign workers were not the offender, but the victim.

"This problem has been going on for some years, and it is caused by the failure to determine whether we are able to fill jobs from the local work force prior to granting foreigners work permits," said Mr. Johnston.

"The proper advertising procedures are being carried out. But in many cases employers advertise a position with a person in mind, and the requirements are written according to his qualifications."



"In such cases, locals are discouraged from applying for jobs because they don't think the job is for them because of the way it is advertised. They highlight requirements which would not otherwise have been necessary."

BIU general secretary Ms Molly Burgess said that part of the problem stemmed from the failure of having properly qualified people serving on the Immigration Board.

"You have to put somebody on the Board who knows all the categories," she said. "Sometimes the Board members don't know what certain jobs are."

Added Union organiser Mr. Kenyatta Young: "If Government dealt with the immigration properly, then we wouldn't have the problem we do today."

Permanent Secretary of Home Affairs, Mr. Ernie Owen, said it would be inappropriate for him to comment on the matter.

But Chamber chief Mr. Gibbons said that not only did he disagree with the Union complaints, but also noted labour laws would soon be made tougher.

"I think that Government's recent announcement on the planned change in re-

gulations relating to work permits would go a long way to alleviate the problem," said Mr. Gibbons. "They have drawn some stiff guidelines."

"I also disagree with the Union. Some people are taking advantage of the situation, but the practical fact is that if Bermudians are available, employers would readily take them."

Government this year introduced a discussion paper that is expected to form the basis of new immigration and labour laws later this year.

Among proposals being considered are provisions that would provide for:

- A Government officer who would hear grievances from Bermudians about work permits;

- Introduce a new standard application form for work permits;

- A requirement that applications for work permit renewals after three years contain proof that the job had been advertised and that there was no suitable Bermudian available;

- Require foreign workers to obtain Government permission to apply for a different job, and allow such applications only once every five years.

BERMUDA

UNION CALLS HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION 'USELESS'

Hamilton THE WORKERS VOICE in English 9 Aug 85 p 1

[Text]

The Bermuda Industrial Union is "thoroughly disappointed and disgusted" with the Human Rights Commission and its handling of the complaints filed by the Union on behalf of 23 former employees of the Bermuda Broadcasting Company. In a statement issued by BIU President, Ottiwell Simmons, the Union claims that because the two persons who were directly responsible for the alleged acts of discrimination — Messrs. Michael Tindall and Martin Smith — were no longer with the BBC, the whole exercise is futile.

It was in July of 1984 that the BBC made the jobs of several staff members redundant in a drastic cutback of radio and television services, and 23 of this group filed a complaint with the Human Rights Commission alleging racial discrimination by the company. Brother Simmons, in his statement, said: "The Union has appeared before the Commission and submitted oral and written evidence on behalf of the BIU members who felt that they were being discriminated against because of their Union affiliation and because they were black. This was last year and the Commission has not reached a decision yet."

Simmons went on to say that, so far as the Union is concerned, the Commission is useless if they are unable to move decisively and promptly. "They have laws to guide them that gives them simple legislative powers to investigate complaints. The question is: Who are you going to investigate after such a long delay?" Michael Tindall and Martin Smith are no longer with the BBC."

He said that it's the Union's view that there is no point in having legislation which is not enforced by those who are hired or appointed to enforce it. "We have lost all hope and confidence in the Human Rights Commission, as it has only proven to be a paper tiger . . . ineffective, and as a consequence, totally useless."

CSO: 3298/035

BERMUDA

BRIEFS

TOURISM GAINS--Hamilton, 10 Sep (CANA)--Bermuda's tourism was up by 5.1 percent in the first seven months of the year, the Department of Tourism announced. The total number of visitors at the end of July stood at 317,252, compared with 301,782 in the corresponding period last year. The increase is due to a 36.6 percent rise in the number of cruise ship passengers. So far, 81,426 tourists have arrived by boat, the department said. Arrivals by air are down by 2.6 percent. July's figures were up by 12.9 percent, with 44,305 arriving by air and 26,223 by sea. Bermuda's record tourism year was 1980, when more than 609,000 visitors came here. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1604 GMT 10 Sep 85 FL]

S. AFRICA SANCTIONS--The Bermuda Government bowed to public pressure yesterday and imposed new trade sanctions against South Africa. The announcement by Premier John Swan followed months of protest from anti-apartheid campaigners backed by opposition politicians on the island. [Text] [Kingston Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 4 Oct 85 FL]

CSO: 3298/035

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

SETUBAL PAVES WAY--Foreign Minister Olavo Setubal is paving the way for Janio Quadros to become Sao Paulo mayor. The most remarkable thing during a luncheon held yesterday in Sao Paulo by Janio Quadros, Olavo Setubal, and several Brazilian Labor Party [PTB] and Liberal Front Party [PFL] members was Setubal's interest in becoming the next Sao Paulo governor in 1986. It was evident throughout the meeting that the participants believed Quadros will be the next Sao Paulo mayor. Minister Setubal arrived in Sao Paulo only to give his support to Janio Quadros' candidacy. He wore a [word indistinct] in his lapel during the talks. According to Quadros, who during the luncheon received a phone call from Mines and Energy Minister Aureliano Chaves, in Brasilia two more ministers will support his candidacy: Education Minister Marco Maciel and Communications Minister Antonio Carlos Magalhaes. In turn, Minister Setubal said that the support granted by the PFL to Janio Quadros does not affect the Democratic Alliance at the national level. We are actually discussing the Sao Paulo municipality, not the presidency of Brazil, he said. [By reporter Clovis Mesias] [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 12 Oct 85 PY]

DEPUTIES ORDERED TO RETURN LOANS--Porto Alegre, 11 October (AFP)--One hundred and twenty-two deputies and former congressmen from Rio Grande do Sul state have been ordered to return to the state bank the money they obtained through irregular means by using their immunity, official sources reported today. This measure, which was reported by Porto Alegre Administrative Court Chairman Ruy Gessinger is considered unusual. According to the report, 963 loans with very favorable interest rates were granted in 714 working days. Among those congressmen affected by the measure are mayoral candidates Carrion, Junion, from the Government Party and Victor Faccioni from the opposing Social Democratic Party [PDS] created by the military government. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0424 GMT 12 Oct 85 PY]

PCdoB ON OBA THREAT--Manaus, 11 October (AFP)--The executive board of the recently legalized Communist Party of Brazil (PCdoB) today charged that a so-called Brazilian anti-communist organization (OBA) has threatened to burn and dynamite the party headquarters. The executive board of the pro-Albania PCdoB blamed the threat on ultra-rightist sectors that do not want democracy. The owner of the building also received threats over the phone for having rented the building to the PCdoB. The police will intercept all phone calls to investigate the threats by the OBA. [Text] [Paris AFP in Spanish 2244 GM 11 Oct 85 PY]

WAR COLLEGE COMMANDER RETIRES--Brasilia--The retirement of current War College Commander, General Euclides Figueiredo Filho is now official. According to a decree signed by President Jose Sarney and published yesterday in the official gazette, the brother of former president Jose Figueiredo has been retired and granted all the financial privileges to which a retired military officer of his rank is entitled. [passage omitted] [Excerpt] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 12 Oct 85 p 6 PY]

FOUR IBC OFFICES CLOSED--The Brazilian Coffee Institute [IBC] will close four of its offices abroad: in Tokio, Abidjan, Hamburg, and Milan. This will save the IBC \$5 million annually. [Text] [Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1555 GMT 12 Oct 85 PY]

CSO: 3342/8

CHILE

## BUSINESS LEADERS PROPOSE NATIONAL EXPORT PROJECT

Santiago EL EXPORTADOR in Spanish Aug 85 pp 5-7

[Text] The creation and implementation of a "National Exports Project" is, in the judgment of the private management sector, an indispensable requisite for achieving full development of export activity and, consequently, national progress.

At a meeting of the Expanded General Council of the Production and Commerce Confederation, which was attended by representatives of farmers, CONUPIA [Sole National Confederation of Small Industries and Crafts], exporters, ASIMET [Association of Metallurgical Manufacturers], COPAGRO [National Confederation of Agricultural Cooperatives, Ltd.] CORMETAL [Corporation of Small and Medium Metallurgical Industry], ICARE [Chilean Institute for Rational Business Administration], ASEXMA [Association of Exporters of non Traditional Manufactured Products], ASIVA [Association of Valparaiso and Aconcagua Manufacturers], Binational Chambers of Commerce, CORMA [Chilean Lumber Corporation], Air Cargo, Customs, and other organizations, it was agreed to challenge the authorities with the urgent need to proceed with a vast program which will assure that every Chilean feels himself a part of the export process.

Because we consider it of major interest for export activity, we print at length the agreement reached at the important meeting held in Santiago, which was attended by more than a hundred representatives of business and manufacturing.

### The National Export Project

1.-- The expanded General Council of the Confederation of Production and Commerce, with the concurrence of the following of its branches:  
National Agricultural Society;  
National Chamber of Commerce;  
National Society of Mining;  
Society for the Promotion of Manufacturing;  
Chilean Chamber of Construction; and  
Association of Banks and Financial Institutions;  
and with the attendance of the following organizations:  
Confederation of Trade Union Associations and Federations of

Farmers of Chile;  
 Sole National Confederation of Small Industries and Crafts -- CONUPIA;  
 Association of Chilean Exporters;  
 Association of Metallurgical Manufacturers -- ASIMET;  
 Federation of Vinegrowing and Winemaking Cooperatives of Chile;  
 National Confederation of Agricultural Cooperatives Ltd. -- COPAGRO;  
 National Society of Fishing;  
 Corporation of Small and Medium Metallurgical Industry -- CORMETA;  
 Chilean Institute for Rational Business Administration -- ICARE;  
 Association of Exporters of non traditional Manufactured Products --ASEXMA;  
 Association of Valparaiso and Aconcagua Manufacturers;--ASIVA;  
 National Association of Shipowners;  
 Customs Chamber of Chile;  
 Chilean Lumber Corporation;  
 Chilean Association of Air Cargo Agencies;  
 Chilean-German Chamber of Industry and Commerce;  
 Chilean-Colombian Chamber of Commerce;  
 Belgian-Chilean Chamber of Commerce;  
 Italian Chamber of Commerce of Chile;  
 Chilean-South African Chamber of Commerce;  
 Club of Binational Chambers of Commerce of Chile;  
 United States Chamber of Commerce in Chile;  
 Chilean-British Chamber of Commerce;  
 met to examine the urgency of developing effectively the export activity of our country;

2.-- Those present unanimously agreed to reaffirm that in order to achieve the fullest economic and social development of the country it is absolutely necessary to implement a National Export Project which involves an in-depth examination of the priorities and the allocation of resources of the public and private sectors of Chile.

3.-- This National Project requires for its expansion and projection, a collective effort in which:

- a) It will be the responsibility of the State to provide a stable framework which would permit and encourage the development of export activity and one which replaces imports in an efficient manner.
- b) It will be the responsibility of the employers and workers to undertake the initiatives necessary to develop, produce and market with the greatest efficiency goods and services which can be distributed abroad.
- c) All parties must approach this task in a spirit of cooperation so as to make the best use of our country's resources and advantages in the export task.

4.-- The private sector has for some time been coming forward with proposals to encourage our exports; these have been timely presented for the consideration of the authorities. We interpret recent governmental statements as a clear signal of the official decision to encourage Chilean exports. On this understanding we shall make every effort to see to it that those proposals which conform to measures already announced by the government be put into operation as soon as possible.

5.-- So that this National Scheme may achieve its objectives to the fullest, we Chilean businessmen shall continue to intensify our initiatives and efforts, assuming an export oriented mentality and attitude, in order to meet this national challenge with success; this will involve all who export either directly or indirectly. In the achievement of these objectives, the domestic production of replacements for imports must be considered a crucial factor.

6.-- The success of the National Scheme will depend basically on:

a) A private sector which acts nimbly and coordinates with the public sector, keeping in view a common objective: to export and produce more, both in quantity and in quality. This will require a spirit of respect for the private businessman and of recognition of his considerable contribution to the national community.

b) The elimination of bureaucratic obstacles, which will make it possible for the exporting sector to compete abroad without tax burdens of any kind and with support mechanisms similar to those which obtain in all countries which have achieved success in their export strategy.

c) The introduction of credit programs which will provide short term credit relief to businesses, -- be they small, medium or large -- and which will permit them to reorient their activities within the framework of this National Scheme. It is absolutely necessary that the revitalization of the exporting sector should produce a greater activity at every level of national production

7.-- To achieve the effective integration of the private sector into this task, the Expanded Council has decided to create a Coordinating Committee for the Project with executive capacity at the highest level, making possible the best use of available resources.

8.-- Export is the task of every Chilean. We must act now. Therefore the government must act most decisively in developing an export strategy which will remove barriers and generate adequate and effective stimuli. Employers and workers must adjust themselves -- with full attention to ethical standards -- to levels of activity, quality and efficiency which the competitive foreign markets require of us.

The National Export Project is a historic opportunity to change the face of present day Chile. The private sector accepts this and is prepared to assume its responsibilities.

12383

CSO: 3348/952



CHILE

BRIEFS

SOCIAL DEMOCRAT LABOR ORGANIZATION -- The National Organization of Social Democratic Workers of Chile was called into being at the first trade union congress of this tendency held in Talagante. Jose Gallardo was elected president, and he will head a directorate of 17 members. The new organization replaces the National Trade Union Department of Social Democracy and will have a "technical advisory body" of active labor leaders, whose duty will be to research, analyze and propose legislation dealing with labor, social security etc. It favors the creation of the "National Democratic Labor Union" to fight for the full reestablishment of representative democracy, modification of the Constitution and a democratically elected parliament. It also calls for the "creation of a Patriotic Front, composed of those who seek liberty and democracy and who are opposed to violence and terrorism, which in the search for understanding and consensus will lead us once and for all to social, political and economic democracy. Resolutions included a call for changes in existing labor and social security legislation. In the labor area collective bargaining by fields of industrial or professional activity was suggested, and in the social security area, a return to the comprehensive social security system. [Text] [Santiago TERCERA DE LA HORA in Spanish 23 Aug 85 p 11] 12383

CSO: 3348/952

COLOMBIA

URUGUAYAN PAPER INTERVIEWS VIEIRA

PY272004 Montevideo LA HORA in Spanish 8 Sep 85 International Supplement  
pp 2-3

[Interview with Colombian Communist Party Secretary General Gilberto Vieira granted to Rafael Cribari, chief of LA HORA's international department, in Bogota on 2 September]

[Excerpt] [Cribari] In your opinion, what will happen to the so-called peace policy in the near future, will the truce continue to hold?

[Vieira] Peace, dialogue with the guerrillas, and the truce will continue to play a key role.

The truce that the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia [FARC] signed with the government will expire on 1 December. The people are wondering what will come next. However, we can say at this point that the movement that FARC represents, its general staff, has decided to offer an extension of the truce until September 1986. The only thing the FARC is asking for is a streamlining of government organizations that have to do with the truce and the peace policy. They are asking for a merger of the so-called National Peace Commission and the Verification Commission. Naturally, the political objective of the FARC is a swift democratic reform in the country, but they are not making this reform a prerequisite for establishing deadlines or pressuring the government. It is obvious that the FARC leaders realize that these democratic reforms will not be attained in Colombia unless there is a huge united movement and the masses undergo significant political development.

[Cribari] Is that the reason for the Patriotic Unity [UP] project that the FARC is advocating?

[Vieira] Yes. It is obvious that the UP is a growing movement, that it enjoys considerable support from many sectors of the country; having started out in the farming areas it is now seriously tackling the large cities.

We have to say that the spread of the UP in various regions of the country is worrying liberal and conservative political leaders. They see that this movement will be their serious competitor in the upcoming elections and are carrying out a pitched campaign against the FARC

companeros, whom they are accusing of using their arms to pressure the popular sectors into joining the UP.

This campaign reflects the panic of traditional caudillos and landowners in the face of the progress, which the UP is making in various key regions of the country.

The Communist Party is now working with the UP because we feel that in Colombia this movement is the broad front, which we communists believe necessary to defend the people's gains and especially to obtain true democratic reforms in the country.

[Cribari] What is the viewpoint of the Colombian Communist Party regarding the current pre-electoral status quo? To what extent are the people participating in it and what are the chances of the Colombian left in these coming elections?

[Vieira] The efforts of the Communist Party during this pre-electoral period are directed toward fostering the UP, which was conceived along the lines of the [Uruguayan] Broad Front under Colombian conditions.

It is the Communist Party's position that the UP is not merely an elections-oriented movement. It has broader, deeper, and longer-term objectives, but it will participate in the elections. Our party has always felt that the electoral abstention policy, which certain leftist sectors advocate and follow, is completely negative and useless. Therefore the party wants elections to be taken advantage of for political action and the struggle against the current two-party system. In view of this it believes that the UP will be a significant step forward in the Colombian status quo.

[Cribari] What is the relationship between the Colombian Communist Party and other leftist forces, especially with the guerrilla movements?

[Vieira] The Communist Party tries to unite all revolutionary sectors that are called leftist. Obviously the UP does not constitute what one could call a leftist front. This is a much broader initiative that seeks to bring together nonleftist sectors of the Colombian society. We want to attract people who belong to the Conservative and Liberal parties. Meanwhile the Communist Party is maintaining ties with other leftist sectors, which have a coordinating board within which we discuss current problems and prospects.

Now, regarding the M-19, with which we maintain relations.

We believe its members have unfortunately maintained triumphalist attitudes and have been carried away by military provocations. The military have provoked all the sectors of the guerrilla movement that signed the truce. However, while the FARC and other sectors of the guerrilla movement have properly replied to the militarist provocations by unmasking the militarist

political objectives and by carrying out actions without disobeying the truce, the M-19 comrades lost their patience and started fighting again, breaking the truce.

We are very concerned about the heavy blows the military have struck against our M-19 comrades. We greatly regret the death of Comrade Ivan Marino Ospina, a great leader and founder of the movement, who was slain in battle recently in Cali. It was also reported today that another important M-19 leader was slain in Buga, in a sector of the Cauca Valley.

Anyway, the Communist Party maintains relations with all the leftist sectors although it may not share some of their views or positions.

However, regarding the election problem, there is no agreement among the leftist sectors. For example, the M-19 rejected any possibility of election, despite the fact that it had gained considerable political influence particularly in the cities during the truce.

The Communist Party nonetheless maintains relations with other leftist sectors in spite of some discrepancies. There are some leftist sectors that support the candidacy of Senator Luis Carlos Galan, leader of the so-called New Liberalism [Nuevo Liberalism] while the Communist Party believes that Senator Galvan demands unconditional support for his movement and program without actually taking a concrete step towards developing a broad movement for an understanding with the New Liberalism.

Therefore, despite our disagreements with some sectors, we maintain relations with them, because we hope to reach an agreement for the election campaign that is beginning.

[Cribari] Regarding international affairs, the Contadora Group has just ended a meeting in Cartagena. What do you think of the results? Is progress being made? What are the real possibilities for peace in Central America?

[Vieira] The fact is, that despite its crisis, the Contadora Group continues functioning and besides, a group of the most important South American countries has been formed to support the Contadora efforts.

We have always considered that, despite its uncertainties and ambiguities, the Contadora Group has a considerably positive role in the Central American problem because it represents an obstacle for the Reagan administration policy and its intentions to directly invade Nicaragua.

We think that Reagan's policy seeks to wear out and discredit the Contadora Group's efforts to try to get rid of it as an obstacle to its plans. This is why we consider the Contadora Group's efforts to be very important and that is why our policy supports that aspect of the Colombian Government's foreign policy.

[Cribari] How is solidarity with the Sandinist revolution being developed and demonstrated?

[Vieira] There is a growing solidarity with the Sandinist revolution in Colombia but it is still uncoordinated. This means that the solidarity is expressed in an isolated manner by different groups. For example, the Communist Party and the Communist Youth sponsor acts of solidarity or campaigns; and then there are Christian sectors that sponsor their own acts of solidarity.

Sometimes these sectors do participate in a single act of solidarity, but we still have not achieved a single solidarity movement for Nicaragua. We are working on this and we consider it a decisive issue because the Nicaraguan problem has become part of the Colombian political situation. This means that the forces that support the Nicaraguan cause, the defense of its sovereignty, and that oppose imperialist aggression against Sandinist Nicaragua, are increasingly confronting the proimperialist forces that shamelessly support imperialist plans against Nicaragua.

CSO: 3348/5

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

IMPORTS ALLOTMENT INCREASE--The Colombian Government has announced that its foreign trade policy produced positive results during the first part of 1985, reducing the deficit in the trade balance. The government also announced it was increasing the budget for imports. In June 1985, the trade deficit was \$390 million, which is \$240 million less than it was for the same period in 1984. [Summary] [Bogota ELSIGLO in Spanish 16 Sep 85 p 9 PA]

MINERAL, SUGAR PRODUCTION--A report issued by the Bank of the Republic indicates that in the first five months of the year, national gold production increased by 99.9 percent compared to the same period in 1984. Gold production in January-May 1985 was 431,849 troy ounces. In the same period, 169,889 tons of iron were extracted. The production of sugar reached 622,261 tons. This is a 37.6 percent increase from the same period last year. The export of petroleum byproducts reached 7,959,000 barrels, a 17.9 percent increase from the same period last year. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 4 Oct 85 p 10 PA]

PLO OFFICE TO OPEN--Cali, Colombia, 28 September (EFE)--The PLO will open an office in Colombia for the permanent exchange of ideas with local politicians and the governments of Colombia and neighboring countries. This was announced today by Demetrio Zaher, director of the Seventh Congress of Federations of American-Arab Organizations, which will be held in Cartagena from 2 to 5 October. [Summary] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0239 GMT 28 Sep 85 PA]

CSO: 3348/56

CUBA

## HOTEL SHORTAGES IN MOST POPULAR SITES SLOW GROWTH OF TOURISM

Havana BOHEMIA in Spanish No 34, 23 Aug 85 pp 34-35

[Article by Alberto Pozo]

[Text] There is already an awareness, at least among a given percentage of the population, of tourism's importance to the country's development and its future. Now, the contradictions are beginning to emerge . . .

Let us look at the base of this pillar of the economy, tourism. Cuba is in great demand among vacationers. One contradiction is that the supply of hotels here is not sufficient to meet that demand.

This is the basic reason for the decline in the growth of this sector between 1984 and 1985, in contrast to the tremendous progress seen in the prior years of the 5-year period. In other words, the increase in the number of travelers has been unable to spur growth at the same pace in this sector.

Since the reason is the lack of hotel rooms, the 1986-1990 period should see a spectacular growth, both because of current construction and remodeling, and because of new building planned for that period.

This aspect of hotel expansion, fascinating though it may be, is not our topic of discussion today, however. It will simply serve as an introductory point of clarification in this commentary.

What we want to comment upon today is the matter of Cuba's centers of tourism, that is, the places where the demand is greatest.

This is where the first surprise may arise for the reader. The principal center of attraction is not Varadero, but our capital, Havana; the city has a dual potential in comparison with the blue-watered beach.

If we stop and think about it, it should not surprise us. Havana has been known for five centuries. One might say that in the first four centuries, it was better known than the country itself. It was the Key to the Gulf, the gateway coveted by Spain's enemies, both countries and pirates. Afterwards, it became the beautiful city of the Caribbean. Havana has strong ties with

history. And today it is the capital of the first socialist country in America.

Next comes the great attraction of Varadero, known since the 19th century, although it was exploited commercially to a certain extent in the latter years of the puppet republic.

The third center of tourism is the Playas del Este beaches. They are a separate entity in terms of classifying tourist spots, although geographically and socially they are part of Havana's recreational facilities.

The rest of the country, because it bears little weight so far among the preferences of international tourists, is considered as a whole. The National Institute of Tourism (INTUR) separates out Cayo Largo, to the south of national territory, from the standpoint of the business and its peculiar nature. But that area cannot yet be considered very significant either, although efforts are being made to that end.

To give a statistical view, the national territory, excluding Havana, Playas del Este and Varadero, accounts for no more than 11 percent of tourism demand. As a matter of fact, part of the tourism the rest of the territory does receive is due to the lack of capacity in the major tourist attractions, and groups are persuaded to visit the beautiful spots offered by the rest of the country.

As a consequence of the development of the tourism infrastructure over the years, however, there is indeed more supply than demand in national territory.

Thus, a dual contradiction has emerged in practice: In three centers there is more demand than supply, while in the rest of the country there is more supply than demand.

It is only natural for the major investments of the 1986-1990 period to be aimed specifically at Havana, Varadero and Playas del Este, and for the emphasis to be placed on Cayo Largo in the immediate future. This experience will provide us with the necessary elements to evaluate the potential of our keys, with more than 3,000 islands and opportunities for specialization, depending on the different needs of the tourist groups.

These investments are very logical, because we must take advantage of the demand for what is currently offered by the different centers. This means thinking in terms of businesses, and gaining the most advantage as quickly as possible. It is easy for us to open up new avenues for tourists' preferences. What is required is a sophisticated effort at marketing, the main aspects of which are promotion and publicity, a medium-term effort at the very least.

Given the current state of demand, however, and given the present market conditions and our supply position, it is clear that we must strive not only to keep the growing tide of tourists flooding to the current centers of attraction, but we must also spur people's interest in other areas of Cuba. They are also marvelous places for vacationing and resting during the corresponding season of each year.



Since every Cuban should share in the awareness of tourism, it occurs to us that journalists, through their respective media, especially those who travel abroad, should spread the word about the beauties and attractions of the other tourist centers.

Since INTUR does not have the capacity to carry out this task everywhere at once, attention is now being focused to a large extent on the infrastructure of two other centers: the area of Guardalavaca Beach in Holguin, and Santiago de Cuba, with its Baconao Park.

No matter where INTUR focuses its construction and service efforts, however, it will find not only a fabulous variety of natural beauties, but also a hospitable people and security for tourists, both consequences of our social revolution. The revolution itself is another attraction to foreigners, who would like to get a first-hand look at the "miracle" of a nation located in the back yard of imperialism that nevertheless has accepted the challenge, developing and offering a society with major material achievements and an enviable quality of life.

To cite some examples of such tourist attractions, we mention Pinar del Rio, with its Vinales Valley and even Bailen Beach, which already has an adequate infrastructure for hosting international tourists, as well as beaches yet to be readied that are every bit as good as the better known ones, such as Las Coloradas. In Ciego de Avila there is Cayo Guillermo, for example, whose sands and water have been compared to those of Varadero. In Camaguey there is Cayo Sabinal, a prime tourist attraction with 23 kilometers of fine sand, plus Santa Lucia, which has already been consolidated. The beaches of Las Tunas have not yet been discovered, and most people find them a pleasant surprise. Then there is the northern coast of Holguin, with Corinthya and a handful of beaches, leading up to Baracoa itself. Another kind of landscape can be found on the southern coast, near Santiago and Granma: the majestic mountains, with very typical little beaches at their feet, lapped by deep blue waters. These, we repeat, are just a few examples, because all Cuba is a paradise.

Although our awareness is growing, we may not yet realize that tourism will be revealed as a backbone of our development. It occurs to us that we should consider Spain, which discovered its potential and was able to make use of it by bringing in more than 40 million tourists. These visitors account for so much income that tourism is the country's principal economic sector.

We should not be concerned exclusively with the traditional centers of tourism, but with developing and offering a wide gamut of tourist attractions as a whole. It is a question of time . . . but first we must plan on the basis of this concept, and promote it systematically.

This country was created by nature to develop tourism.

8926

CSO: 3248/10

CUBA

## CASH AWARDS TO ENCOURAGE SCRAP IRON RECOVERY

Havana GRANMA in Spanish 28 Aug 85 p 3

[Article by Fernando Davalos]

[Text] The workers in the scrap metal chain (suppliers, transporters, recoverers and exporters) may accept the cash awards designed to stimulate their work. A total of 5.1 million pesos has been allocated for that purpose this year.

The above has been implemented by means of Resolutions M-30-84 and 109-85 of the State Pricing Committee, and 1640-85 of the Central Planning Board (JUCEPLAN), the Union of Raw Material Recovery Enterprises of the State Committee for Technical and Material Supply (CEATM) told GRANMA.

Scrap metal suppliers, that is, the firms and other entities of the domestic economy that generate the scrap and deliver it to the Recovery Enterprises, may avail themselves of a fund of up to 4.6 million pesos; those that participate in the rest of the process (Expeditrans, Cuflet and Cubametales) will have 0.5 million pesos at their disposal.

The incentive payments to suppliers amount to 5 pesos (above the recovery price) for each ton of steel scrap, 25 pesos for zinc, 100 pesos for bronze, 120 pesos for aluminum, and 150 pesos for copper. This incentive is paid for tonnage delivered, whether or not it is for export.

The pricing system established for the purchase of scrap metal calls for these amounts to rise by a certain amount if these products are already properly classified when delivered.

If the supplier delivers the scrap without classifying it, or with different qualities mixed together, he is paid by the Recovery Enterprises according to the price of the least expansive metal contained in the shipment.

This measure is designed to encourage the delivery of properly classified and decontaminated (free of dirt or other waste) recoverable raw materials, because the country, in turn, obtains better prices for it on the international market.

The new incentive system seeks in general to establish a direct link between those who handle ferrous and non-ferrous scrap metal (as well as the rest of this economic chain) and the results of their commercial efforts.

The entities that will benefit from these awards must establish internal regulations, according to the JUCEPLAN resolution, to set forth the specific indicators and principal and secondary terms for the granting of the awards.

8926

CSO: 3248/10

CUBA

# OVER 50 TEACHERS, MEDICAL PERSONNEL IN WESTERN SAHARA

Havana CUBA INTERNACIONAL in Spanish Aug 85 pp 51-55

[Article by Juan Buria; passages enclosed in slantlines printed in boldface]

[Excerpts] For several years now, Cuban doctors and teachers have been contributing to the success of the health and education programs being carried out by the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (RASD) as part of a vast sociopolitical and agricultural development project. This project is being pursued simultaneously with the confrontation of the Moroccan occupiers, who are intent on taking over a territory that does not belong to them.

The medical brigade comprises 36 specialists, including doctors, nurses and technicians. The contingent of teachers is made up of 19 men and women who have traveled thousands of kilometers for a single purpose: to teach and learn in direct contact with the Saharan Revolution, one of the most original of our times.

In recent years the people of the former Spanish colony in North Africa have won major military victories and have scored impressive diplomatic, political and social successes under the leadership of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Saguia el Hamra and Rio de Oro (FPOLISARIO), which was founded in May 1973.

Although the Moroccan army has occupied the Western Sahara, it is still not able to take on the combatants of the Polisario Front by itself. The only way it can continue its expansionist war is with the help it receives from other countries, primarily the United States and France, in men, weapons and economic resources.

Cuban epidemiologist Leocadio Martinez Almanza stated that /the Saharans have a very modern and up to date vaccination program. The children are protected against polio, measles, typhus and tuberculosis. Progress is also being made in environmental control, and diseases transmitted through the digestive tract are on the decline./

The key to these promising results was revealed by radiologist Mohamed Fadel, the 28-year-old director of the RASD National Hospital. /"We carry out all

our epidemiological activities with the people's participation,"/ he told me during a tour of the major health care center.

As we talked with patients or health care workers in a home-like setting, outside the sirocco wind howled with all its might.

This typical desert phenomenon is particularly common at the beginning of summer. It is characterized by a strong and steady wind that carries the sand long distances and hurls it against anything that stands in its way, sometimes for so long that the storm seems interminable.

The RASD National Hospital, one of the most important links in the former Spanish colony's health program, has different buildings for pediatric, obstetrical-gynecological and clinical care, as well as three operating rooms, dental services, and clinical, chemical and microbiology laboratories.

#### First Cubans

The first Cubans to arrive in the Sahara 7 years ago were doctors.

Since then, a brigade has traveled each year from the biggest island of the Antilles to this desert country thousands of kilometers away, to support the Saharan health system.

The brigade that is working in the Sahara now has specialists in pediatrics, general medicine, obstetrics, otorhinolaryngology, ophthalmology, psychiatry, dermatology, urology, orthopedics, general surgery, anesthesiology, dentistry and epidemiology. It also has clinical and microbiological laboratory technicians, X-ray technicians, teaching and pediatric nurses, and nurses who operate instruments.

/"A pregnant woman went into labor at about 0200 hours. There was no light, and we had to work with a lantern. Everything came out all right; it was a boy,"/ recalls pediatrician Carlos Toyo Rivero. He added that this situation came up very often, because Saharan women give birth in hospitals nowadays.

The care of pregnant women and newborns is a key aspect of the RASD's health policy. In every /daira/ (the Saharan territorial jurisdiction equivalent to the municipality), the neighbors themselves organize committees to carry out education, nutrition, health, justice and production tasks.

#### Terrible Wounds

In its war to occupy the Western Sahara, the Moroccan army is using very modern weaponry, manufactured by Western companies, mainly in the United States and France.

Morocco makes constant use of CBU fragmentation bombs, napalm and magnesium bombs, and /explosive bullets, devices which cause terrible wounds,/ reported Cuban surgeon Charles Anderson Crosswell.

/"We have treated many patients with burns caused by petroleum derivatives/ (napalm) /or metal derivatives/ (magnesium), /which produce serious damage,"/ he asserted. /"The areas injured by these burns go deeper and deeper, until the internal organs are affected and the victim dies an agonizingly painful death,"/ stated the 34-year-old specialist.

Anderson Crosswell also said that he had provided medical treatment to people /wounded by fragmentation bombs, whose projectiles are difficult to remove, and other people who had been hit with explosive bullets. The latter cause the internal organs to explode, and result in multiple injuries./

This situation forces the Saharans to undertake a colossal effort. They must treat war wounds and carry out health programs for the civilian population. The resources needed are in short supply, however, and many doctors are required.

This explains why emphasis is placed on training cadres. Every health care center contributes to the training of skilled personnel. Every doctor is a teacher.

/"Whenever we get a case that enables us to teach and impart our experience, we do it,"/ indicated Cuban orthopedist Romo Padron Quinones. /"Sometimes we have performed surgery with new techniques, or with old ones that have been brought up to date, and the results have been good; every once in a while we see the patients after they have gotten back on their feet and resumed their normal lives,"/ he said.

The Cuban doctors are participating effectively in the RASD's health cadre training program. Miriam Ramos Gonzalez is credited with organizing a nursing course, and her efforts were crowned with success when her colleagues, nurses Laura Hernandez Padron and Matilde Gavilan Sanchez, arrived.

/"It is a theoretical and practical course that lasts 1 year, and it is aimed at students of both sexes,"/ explained Gavilan Sanchez, 31. She is in charge of the theoretical aspect of the course, and is a professor at the Polytechnical Health Institute in the Cuban capital.

#### Wartime Conditions

Late one afternoon, as I was returning from a visit to a small town, the sight of some children cleaning the sand out of the air-raid shelters made me realize the severity of the conditions this war is imposing on the Saharan people.

Despite the Moroccan policy of genocide against the civilian population, the burdensome legacy of Spanish colonialism and the constant shortage of material and technical resources, however, the RASD has managed to move forward with its projects in all areas, at no cost to the people. This is one of the most original aspects of the Saharan Revolution: there are no monetary-mercantile relations in this territory.

Primary, secondary and mid-level education with a bilingual curriculum (Arabic and Spanish), technical and professional training, and literacy classes for the people are the three major elements of the Saharan educational program in the liberated zones or in the civilian refugee camps, in the Algerian region of Tindouf.

/"In a few years, a high percentage of the people in the RASD will speak two languages,"/ stressed Cuban teacher Carlos Cervelo Boligan.

In the beginning the classes were held outdoors, under trees or in caves, protected from the Moroccan bombers. Today there are centers of learning in the /dairas/ and the /wilayas/ (the equivalent of provinces), and they are attended not only by children, but also by th adults who were deprived of an education during the Spanish colonial presence.

Since 1982, literacy has developed systematically, and each summer national campaigns are organized.

Professional training is given high priority, and technical cadres are taught at the educational centers in a variety of fields: electricity, auto mechanics, carpentry, business management, tailoring, and others.

In 1984, education for handicapped children was launched with a boarding school program and special projects and teachers. Many of these children have endured the horrors of the Moroccan genocide, or are suffering the effects of diseases such as polio that used to be a veritable scourge before independence was declared in 1976.

#### Children of the Desert

The Cuban teachers began to arrive in the Sahara in 1982. The contingent that is working in the RASD at present comprises 15 primary school teachers, one higher-level teacher, and three physical education instructors.

/"The Saharan children are studious and intelligent. Day after day we see them progress in their studies,"/ asserted Cuban teacher Idania Cardero Barquilla, who teaches 5th grade literature and Spanish at the 9 de Junio elementary school. This school, one of the most important in the RASD, was founded in 1976 and now boasts an enrollment of 2,000.

/"We Cuban teachers,"/ indicated Ana Emilia Zaldivar Lindice, /"have become very familiar with our students; we feel like their parents or big sisters or brothers."/

Classes, which are taught by nine Cuban teachers along with the Saharan teachers, include eight daily sessions, split between the morning and the afternoon. The students also receive technical and professional instruction, and carry out manual tasks.

## Proud of Their Mission

The Cuban doctors and teachers in the Sahara carry out their internationalist mission with pride.

They recognize that theirs is a difficult task, especially because of the climatic conditions. The desert is harsh, even for its own inhabitants. /"In the summertime, the temperatures are higher than 45 degrees Celsius in the shade; but in the winter, it seems like it is going to snow, especially at night,"/ reported Cuban anesthetist Sara Fernandez Abreu.

But the Cubans receive constant support from the Saharans. Their advice and friendship help the Cubans to face their difficulties.

Doctors and teachers live together in a solid building erected among the dunes. Some Saharans live among them, led by Ali, a friendly, soft-spoken man whose presence has become indispensable.

/"Ali is always attentive to the tiniest problem, anxious to find an immediate solution,"/ asserted Rodulfo Leon Dominguez, representative of the Cubatecnica enterprise in the RASD.

In a short time, the Cubans have adapted to the customs of this people; they already like camel meat, enjoy the local music, and have learned to make tea with the grace and skill that characterizes the Saharans.

Respectful of the religious and cultural traditions of the RASD citizens, the Cubans have won the affection and generosity of this heroic nation that is already on the road to victory.

Cubans and Saharans together have built a profound relationship that was described very aptly by Mahfud Ali Beiba, member of the Polisario Front Executive Committee and prime minister of the RASD. During an interview he granted me, he said:

/"We have constant indications of Cuban solidarity. A struggling nation such as ours needs all kinds of help, and the cooperation we are receiving from Cuba is the best foundation on which to build future collaboration. The aid Cuba has given us in this initial phase of the life of our nation leads us to assert that Cuba will hold a very honored and esteemed position in the history of the Saharan people's struggle for liberation."/

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CSO: 3248/12



CUBA

BRIEFS

15,000 FOREIGN STUDENTS EXPECTED--Nueva Gerona--Approximately 15,000 students from African nations and Nicaragua will take teacher training courses at primary, secondary, pre-university and polytechnical schools in the special municipality of the Island of Youth. There are more of these students than there were during previous courses for young people from other nations. The program began in 1976 with the arrival of students from Angola, Mozambique and Ethiopia. For this purpose, the municipality operates about 20 schools in the field, and another five centers have been adapted for polytechnical studies in fields such as agronomy, economics, and mid-level skills in health and other areas. Children and young adults from Angola, Guinea, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Namibia, Congo, Sao Tome y Principe, the Democratic Saharan Arab Republic, Yemen and Ghana, in addition to Nicaragua, will take courses in the special municipality. [Text] [Havana GRANMA in Spanish 27 Aug 85 p 2] 8926

CSO: 3248/10

GRENADA

BRIEFS

ALEXIS ON BLAIZE'S HEALTH--St Georges, 27 Sep (CANA)--Grenada's labour minister, Dr Francis Alexis, has sought to assure nationals about the health of Prime Minister Herbert Blaize, following concern over his hospitalisation in the United States for radiology treatment. There are those who would like to believe the worst, Alexis told guests yesterday at the reopening of the refurbished St Georges Public Market. They would like to believe that Prime Minister Blaize is not as well as he says...but, only today, we got a computer print-out from Washington setting out the activities the prime minister has been engaged in. These include discussions relative to the entrenching of democracy, the boat building industry, the information services, water and road development, and the supply of medical equipment to Grenada. A man engaged in such activities is certainly destined to rescue Grenada for at least the next five years, he said, adding: Those who would like to believe the worst, they will continue to be prophets of doom, and their prophesies will continue to be dumbfounded. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1944 GMT 27 Sep 85 FL]

CSO: 3298/036

JAMAICA

MANLEY AGAIN DEMANDS ELECTIONS NOW, CRITICIZES SEAGA

'Contempt for CARICOM' Charge

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 21 Sep 85 p 5

[Text]

KINGSTON, Fri., (Cana):  
FORMER Jamaican Prime Minister, Michael Manley, has accused the Edward Seaga Government of showing contempt for the Caribbean Community (Caricom).

Speaking last night at the opening of the 47th annual conference of his People's National Party (PNP), he said the PNP believed the Caribbean, irrespective of language barriers left by colonialism, had a common history and destiny.

"If regional peoples were to build a better life and have their place in the world," Mr. Manley said, "the Caribbean must learn the secret of unity."

"For this reason we are appalled by the fact that we have a Government that does not care about

Caricom," he declared.

"It is contemptuous of the Caribbean, seeking to tie us to one centre of power in the world," he added.

"We intend to change that in due time," said Mr. Manley who was Prime Minister when Jamaica helped found Caricom in 1973.

The Seaga Government has pulled Jamaica close to the U.S. and in the past has received criticism for its handling of matters affecting Caricom, a 13-member free trade and functional co-operation grouping of present and former British colonies in the Caribbean.

Business and political analysts here say that Seaga sees greater benefit in casting his lot with Washington, leaving a secondary role for the community.

Call for January Elections

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 24 Sep 85 p 5

[Text]

KINGSTON, Mon., (Cana):  
OPPOSITION People's National Party (PNP) leader, Michael Manley last night demanded that the Jamaica Government call general elections by next January and unveiled what could amount to the party's manifesto for the poll.

Mr Manley, speaking at the closing public session of the PNP's 47th annual conference in Kingston, said that based on the October 1980 election here Prime Minister Edward Seaga's term would expire this October, but the Constitution would allow him to go on for a further three months that would take the period of office up to the end of January 1986.

"I say to the Government to take your free decision to call the election before the five years and three months are up," the PNP leader declared.

"If the Government after my appeal cannot do what is right, it must understand that there is a principle to defend — please don't force us to defend that principle," he added.

#### BOYCOTTED

Mr Manley said that defending the principle did not involve violence but the PNP working within all available constitutional means.

Legally, Prime Minister Seaga's term will end in 1988 based on the snap elections called in December 1983.

But the PNP boycotted that poll, insisting that it was fraudulent because it was called on an outdated voters lists which disfranchised thousands and was held without

the implementation of agreed reforms to minimise fraud.

While Mr Manley used the occasion to renew the campaign for elections, his nearly three-hour speech was taken up mainly with belittling the economic performance of the Seaga Government and launching the PNP's alternative to the administration's monetarist policies.

This was a shift in position because for several months the PNP was resisting calls to fully unveil its plans saying that would be done any time Seaga announced the election date.

A key element of Mr Manley's outline was that there would be no automatic rejection of negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) by a PNP government.

But he indicated that many of the

policies associated with the present IMF-Jamaica agreement — a floating exchange rate, almost total deregulation of the economy, and a credit squeeze — would be dismantled by a PNP Government.

Mr Manley, who in early 1980 as Prime Minister broke negotiations with the IMF after he found the fund's loan conditions unpalatable, said that on a return to power he would examine the conditions of the existing IMF arrangement and the foreign exchange it provided against his party's strategic policies and objectives.

The Government would also go around the world to see what other sources of foreign exchange would be available to it.

It was within that framework that Jamaica would talk with the IMF, Mr Manley declared.

The PNP leader said the first country his government would approach about economic assistance will be the United States.

JAMAICA

STONE POLLS REFLECT DISILLUSIONMENT WITH SEAGA, JLP

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER and THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 5-8 Sep 85 pp 2, 3

[Text] The July 1985 Stone Poll was carried out by Professor Carl Stone over the period July 25-31, 1985. The sample includes 1,102 persons (18 years and over) from 54 areas across the island.

Sixty-four per cent of the sample voted in the 1980 elections. Of that group 1980 voters 57% voted JLP compared to the actual 59% JLP vote in 1980. The sample therefore undercounts JLP strength by some 2%. The last Stone Poll was carried out in February, 1985.

Opinion Poll 12: Majority disagree that there is no alternative to Mr. Seaga's policies

The July 1985 Stone Poll revealed that there was a majority of citizens in both the Corporate Area and other parishes who disagreed with the view that there was no better alternative to the policies being carried out by the present JLP government.

Many feel that the PNP has an alternative. Others say that there are other policies which the JLP should change toward adopting them. A third view is that there are alternatives beyond what the JLP and the PNP are likely to offer.

Question: Some people say that there is no better alternative to the policies Mr. Seaga is carrying out. Others say that the PNP has an alternative. What is your view?

<b><u>ANSWERS:</u></b>	<b><i>Corporate area</i></b>	<b><i>Other parishes</i></b>
<b><i>Yes, there is no better alternative</i></b>	<b><i>31%</i></b>	<b><i>24%</i></b>
<b><i>PNP has a better alternative</i></b>	<b><i>43%</i></b>	<b><i>52%</i></b>
<b><i>JLP policies should be changed</i></b>	<b><i>4%</i></b>	<b><i>3%</i></b>
<b><i>There are other alternatives beyond JLP/PNP</i></b>	<b><i>10%</i></b>	<b><i>6%</i></b>
<b><i>Don't know</i></b>	<b><i>12%</i></b>	<b><i>15%</i></b>

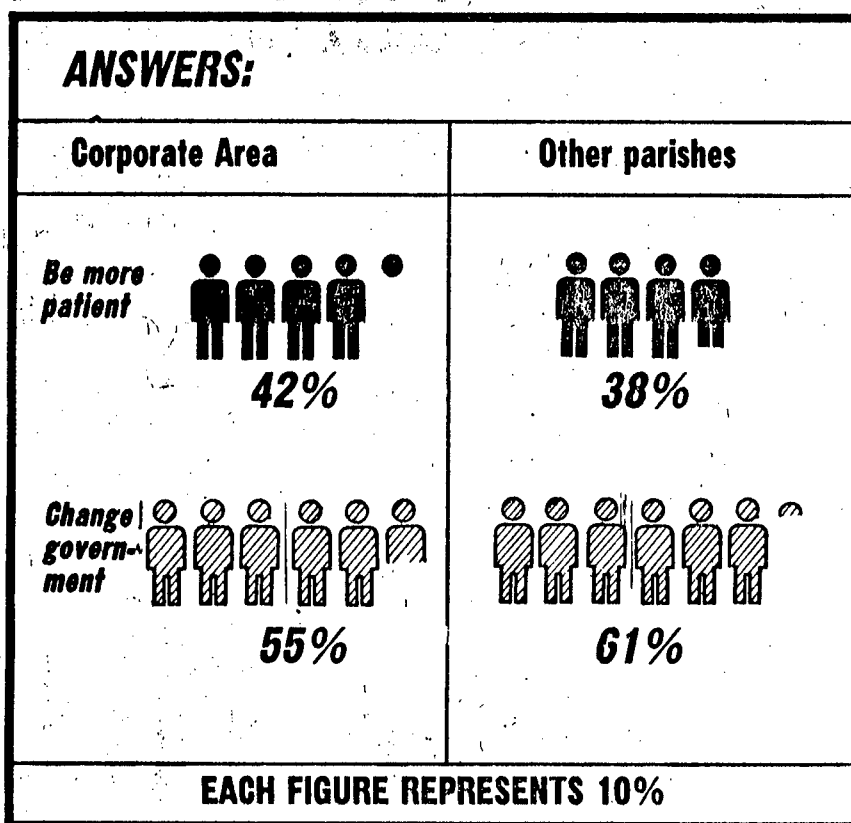
**Opinion Poll 13: Majority favour change of government**

Faced with a Choice between waiting patiently on Mr. Seaga's policies to show results and a change of government, the majority of citizens interviewed in the July 1985 Stone Poll Supported the view that the best option would be a change of government at this time.

Corporate Area citizens are less confined of the concrete benefits of a change of government than are citizens in rural parishes, hence the larger rural parish majority supporting that view.

Opinions on this issue naturally follow party leaning rather closely. Among the politically uncommitted opinions divide almost equally between these two positions.

Question: Some people say that the Government and the Prime Minister are doing their best and that the country should be more patient and give them more time to turn around the economy. Others say that what we need now is a change of government? What do you think?



Opinion Poll 14: Patterson seen as best successor to Manley; Shearer as best alternative JLP leader

The July Stone Poll attempted to probe the public's feeling about alternative choices to the existing PNP and JLP leaders.

In the case of the JLP 74% of the rural parishes JLP supporters and 88% of the Corporate Area JLP supporters were satisfied that Mr. Seaga was the best leader. Among the minority dissatisfied with his leadership, the majority saw Mr. Shearer as the best alternative.

Among both PNP supporters and the politically neutral there were majorities favouring a change in JLP leadership. Mr. Shearer was the overwhelming choice as an alternative leader.

Citizens were asked who should be the best choice of leader should Mr. Michael Manley have to give up the leadership of the PNP. The question is entirely hypothetical as Mr. Manley has happily recovered from his recent illness. We posed the question simply to see what of the other PNP leaders enjoyed most support across the country.

Mr. Patterson emerged as the most popular choice, although his support is stronger in the rural parishes than in the Corporate Area. Other significant contenders in terms of popularity are Mr. Mullings, Miss Portia Simpson, D. K. Duncan and Carl Rattray and Tony Spaulding.

Questions: If Mr. Manley were to give up the leadership of the PNP who would you like to see take over? Some people say the JLP needs a new leader, others disagree. What is your view? Who would you like to see take over?

<b>ANSWERS: PNP leadership (% preferring leaders)</b>		
	<i>Corporate Area</i>	<i>Other parishes</i>
P.J. Patterson	31%	53%
Foggy Mullings	4%	11%
Portia Simpson	8%	7%
Tony Spaulding	3%	3%
D.K. Duncan	5%	2%
Carl Rattray	2%	1%
Others	3%	6%
No choice	43%	17%

<b>JLP Leaders</b>		
% wishing to see new JLP leader		
	<i>Corporate Area</i>	<i>Other parishes</i>
Yes, new leader needed	55%	58%
No, Mr. Seaga is O.K.	38%	35%

<b>JLP Supporters</b>		
	<i>Corporate Area</i>	<i>Other parishes</i>
Mr. Seaga is O.K.	88%	74%
JLP needs new leader	12%	26%

<b>Alternatives to Mr. Seaga's (% preferring leaders)</b>		
	<i>Corporate Area</i>	<i>Other parishes</i>
Mr. Shearer	35%	54%
Mr. Charles	6%	7%
Mr. Broderick	2%	8%
Mr. Smith	1%	4%

#### Opinion Poll 15: PNP increases its lead over the JLP

In the five-month period between the last Stone Poll and the current one (February to March 1985) the PNP has increased its lead over the JLP. This increase was recorded mainly in areas outside of the Corporate Area.

The WPJ increased its popular support over the period from 3 % to 4%. Uncommitted voters remained stable at 26%.

JLP support recorded in the July poll at 25% of the electorate is at the second lowest level ever recorded for any party since these polls commenced 10 years ago in 1975. The other lowest support levels recorded were 20%, for the PNP in May 1981, 26% for the JLP in September 1984, 29% for the PNP in February 1981 and 29% for the JLP in February 1985.

These trends towards increasing opposition voter support reflect the impact of the harsh austerity measures being experienced in the economy.



The PNP increased its popular vote strength from 42% to 45% representing its highest point of mass support since the 1980 election defeat.

According to these estimates of popular support, the PNP would early 61% of the votes if an election were called at this time. The WPJ would earn 5% and the JLP 34%.

The overwhelming majority of JLP and PNP supporters have voter I.D. cards while substantial numbers of the uncommitted do not have voter I.D. cards.

Significantly most of the unemployed fall either in the group of PNP supporters of that of the uncommitted. Wage workers reveal a preference towards the PNP while the self-employed are equally divided between the main parties. Young voters tend more towards the PNP and the uncommitted groupings than towards the JLP.

Unionised workers show a strong tendency towards the PNP 51%; JLP 30%, WPJ 8% and the uncommitted 11%.

Question: If an election were called today, which party would you vote for?

<b><u>ANSWERS:</u> PNP (45%) JLP (25%) WPJ (4%) Uncom- mitted (26%)</b>				
<b>Comparison with earlier polls (Since 1980 elections)</b>				
	<b>PNP</b>	<b>JLP</b>	<b>WPJ</b>	<b>uncom- mitted</b>
<b>October 1980</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>(added to PNP)</b>	<b>13%</b>
<b>February 1981</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>25%</b>
<b>May 1981</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>48%</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>30%</b>
<b>July 1981</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>November 1981</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>31%</b>
<b>May 1982</b>	<b>34%</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>24%</b>
<b>October 1982</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>19%</b>
<b>March 1983</b>	<b>41%</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>1%</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>October 1983</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>43%</b>	<b>0.5%</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>December 1983</b>	<b>39%</b>	<b>32%</b>	<b>0.3%</b>	<b>29%</b>
<b>September 1984</b>	<b>38%</b>	<b>26%</b>	<b>2%</b>	<b>34%</b>
<b>February 1985</b>	<b>42%</b>	<b>29%</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>26%</b>
<b>July 1985</b>	<b>45%</b>	<b>25%</b>	<b>4%</b>	<b>26%</b>

JAMAICA

## PNP CONFERENCE OPENS; POLICIES CRITICIZED, DEFENDED

### Plans for Annual Meeting

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Sep 85 p 3

[Text]

The People's National Party's 47th annual conference opens tonight at the National Arena with a ceremony which is to be addressed by keynote speaker, Dr. Jose Pena Gomez, head of Dominican Republic's ruling Party and a Vice President of Socialist International.

Party President Mr. Michael Manley, who will introduce the guest speaker, participated in a pre-conference ceremony along with other officers yesterday at the headquarters to mark the 47th anniversary of the founding of the PNP.

Over 2,400 delegates are expected to attend this year's conference which has as its theme: "Time come...Now For the Alternative."

High points of the conference are the election of vice presidents and the ratification of the Party's economic and social plan on which its policies as a new government will be based.

Other highlights will be addresses to the conference by representatives of arms of the Party; an examination of the condition of the country and an address by Mr. Manley to the private session.

Highlights of the policy alternatives of the Party will be the main theme of the Presidential address to be given by Mr. Manley at the public session on Sunday.

Special guests at Sunday's public session will include members of the Diplomatic and Consular Corps, representatives of the private sector, and representatives of various national organisations.

Delegates from some 20 countries including, the United States of America, the U.S.S.R., Puerto Rico, Cuba and Guyana are expected to attend.

The election of vice presidents, an exercise which has not taken place outside of the "en bloc" motions since 1978, promises to be exciting, according to conference organisers.

The incumbent vice presidents are: Mr. Seymour Mullings, Miss Portia Simpson, Mr. O.D. Ramtallie and Mr. Winston Jones. The Party's spokesman on Mining, Mr. Horace Clarke and spokesman on Public Utilities, Mr. Robert Pickersgill have indicated that they will campaign for election to the vice president post this year.

Mr. Pickersgill said yesterday that he has been very happy with the response from delegates to his intention to run. He feels that his record as the "longest sitting" member of the PNP executive and the fact that he is the youngest chairman of the Party's Disciplinary Committee will give him the edge over his opponents.

"The officer corps of the Party are very delighted at my decision to enter the vice president race and I enjoy their confidence," Mr. Pickersgill said.

GLEANER Criticism

FL302215 Bridgetown CANA in English 1930 GMT 30 Sep 85

[Text] Kingston, 30 Sep (CANA)--The influential Jamaican daily THE GLEANER said today that the newly outlined economic policies of the opposition People's National Party (PNP) were nothing new and would return the country to the disasters of the seventies.

PNP leader Michael Manley a week ago unveiled his party's economic and social plan to counter Seaga's austere monetarism.

Apart from the party's apparent reversal of its attitude to the IMF (International Monetary Fund), the policies listed by Mr Manley constitute nothing new, THE GLEANER said in a lengthy editorial.

They serve to reinforce the party's belief in a centrally planned economy which, interestingly, the main socialist countries are now discovering is destructive in industrial stimulation and growth, the conservative paper added.

THE GLEANER's position largely echoed Prime Minister Edward Seaga's weekend analysis of the PNP proposals. ...The alternative turns out to be nothing more than the exact same strategy that was adopted by them in 1978, Seaga told a fund-raising function for his western Kingston constituency.

Economists say the PNP alternative essentially advocates a measured reflating of the economy, but the programme includes a return to a fixed exchange rate for the Jamaican dollar, and the fixing of priorities for the use of scarce foreign exchange.

A PNP government would not automatically reject loans from the IMF, with which it quarrelled bitterly in the 1970's while in office. Seaga, since 1981, has concluded three agreements with the fund, and Jamaica is currently on an IMF programme.

The prime minister, pointing to what he characterised as the failed programmes of the 1970's, said that during the period, the Manley government printed money to fund government programmes and expand the public sector to initiate growth.

That model did not succeed in producing growth, because the rate of inflation eroded all the positive growth and it ended up with negative growth, Seaga said.

The PNP has conceded that its fixed exchange rate and reflationary model would encourage some black market activity and inflation in the early period. But it argued that this would be a small price to pay against the pressures being felt by Jamaicans, through the persistent devaluations allowed by the free floating of the local dollar and the jobs being lost because of tight credit.

Seaga, however, said that inflation under his administration has not exceeded 30 percent, whereas in 1978 it was 50 per cent. The alternative means running

up the deficit again, after we have at great cost and sacrifice tried to reduce it, the prime minister declared.

THE GLEANER, in its attack on the policies, also stressed the point that a fixed exchange rate would cause inflation to explode, while periodic direct devaluations would drive away investments.

The premise that international development capital, particularly from Western European socialist countries, would become more accessible to a new PNP government is misplaced and reflects a misconception of the international capital market, THE GLEANER said.

More and more, the transfer of investment capital is being based on sound economic management, as the credit nations or institutions are concerned about ability to pay, the paper added.

The PNP's confidence in attracting Western European assistance is based on a Socialist international policy document launched last week, committing member parties in government in the industrialised world to give increased aid to their counterparts in the developing nations.

#### Manley Rejoinder

FL022000 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 2 Oct 85

[Text] Former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley has dismissed criticism that his new party program offers no new ideas. In response to a weekend editorial in Jamaica's DAILY GLEANER newspaper, which claimed the party's policies would lead to what it called "the disaster of the 70's," Mr Manley said THE GLEANER had failed to study his party's proposals. He says his policies will work much better than those pursued by Prime Minister Edward Seaga. However, he did acknowledge that he will return to many of his policies of the 1970's if he is reelected. He says he will implement some form of protectionism for domestic companies, establish a fixed exchange rate, and implement land reform.

CSO: 3298/037

JAMAICA

SEAGA REVIEWS PROGRESS OF GOVERNMENT LAYOFFS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 12 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

Prime Minister Edward Seaga met with Ministers of Government and their Permanent Secretaries in discussions lasting for most of yesterday to review the progress of the lay-off programmes of individual ministries.

Details of the discussions were not disclosed but it is believed that the review took place against the background of the coming September performance test which the Government must pass under the agreement with the International Monetary Fund.

Under the IMF agreement the Government was required to achieve certain cuts in expenditure which required a 10 percent cut in the public sector. It is not known officially if the target has been achieved.

Mr. Seaga had earlier this year issued instructions through the Ministry of the Public Service for all ministries to cut their recurrent expenditures by 10 per cent.

According to the instructions, the ministries were supposed to look first at cutting certain uneconomic projects; and second to examine redundancies. Mr. Seaga also met recently with heads of statutory bodies to

advise them that following on the Central Government lay-offs it was their time to cut staff and expenditure.

The Gleaner has learned from sources close to the Government that the Prime Minister has not been satisfied with the level of redundancies and cutbacks that have so far taken place because the target of 10 per cent cut in expenditure has not been met.

Government sources say that the individual discussions with Ministers and their Permanent Secretaries are a precursor to Jamaica's quarterly International Monetary Fund tests which have to meet certain performance criteria, among which is the domestic assets test.

Mr. Seaga's discussions with the top brass in the Ministries between 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. yesterday, involved the Permanent Secretary in the Prime Minister's Office, Mr. Don Brice, first.

A Jamaica House source yesterday confirmed that the meetings were taking place. The source also said that the talks centered on matters dealing with tight fiscal management in the public sector.

CSO: 3298/028

JAMAICA

COMMISSION DENIES MANLEY CLAIM KINGSTON WILL LOSE SEAT

Manley Charge

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 16 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Text]

**T**HE PARISH OF KINGSTON is to lose one of its constituencies in the change of boundaries being drafted by the Electoral Commission. The changes are expected to be made at the end of the year.

Mr. Michael Manley, President of the People's National Party, disclosed this yesterday at the Vauxhall Secondary School at the conference of the PNP's Kingston East Central constituency, which he used to represent before the PNP boycotted the snap general election called for December 15, 1983.

The capital parish's four political constituencies now are: Kingston Western, Kingston West Central, Kingston East Central and Kingston Eastern and Port Royal.

The *Gleaner* later learned that the constituency to be dropped is Kingston West Central.

The Kingston West Central seat is held by Mr. Derrick Smith. The previous representative was Mr. Ralph Brown of the PNP.

Mr. Manley said the matter had been discussed with his party's executive and a resolution was before it for consideration. He had taken the decision to remain in Kingston, Mr. Manley said, and he had a feeling that the executive would "let me have my way."

Mr. Manley said there were going to have to be some changes at the end of the year because under the Constitution of Jamaica, the parish of Kingston could no longer maintain four seats in the House of Representatives. The number of voter registration was too low and therefore by law and the Constitu-

tion, Kingston had once again to become a three-seat parish.

He said it was a difficult thing before them, but the matter had been discussed with the executive of his party and there was a resolution before it "which says quite simply that what Kingston is going to lose in one seat, St. Andrew will gain in another. Between Ralph Brown, Carlisle Dunkley and myself, two will remain in Kingston and one can have the opportunity of the extra seat in St. Andrew. So nobody has to be displaced."

Mr. Dunkley is the PNP's Constituency Representative for Eastern Kingston and Port Royal.

St. Andrew now has 11 constituencies.

The party leader said he had taken the personal decision "that I do not wish to leave Kingston. I have never known any other politics but Kingston politics. I have a feeling the executive will let me have my way but what you can be sure of, (is) there is a place for all three."

Mr. Manley, who also spoke about Jamaica's democratic institutions and what he described as their destruction in reference to the restructuring of Local Government, promised that if his party returned to power, it would rebuild those institutions. He said there might be that sometimes Local Government bodies were not as efficient as they should be and there might have to be a "shaking up ... but the day you remove them you have cut away the people."

## Electoral Unit's Denial

JPRS-LAM-85-092  
31 October 1985

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Sep 85 p 1

[Text]

No decision has yet been taken by the Electoral Advisory Committee as to any change in the number of Kingston electoral constituencies, Professor Gladstone Mills, chairman of the Committee said yesterday.

In a statement he said: "An article on the front page of the **Daily Gleaner** for September 16, 1985 refers to a disclosure said to have been made by Mr. Michael Manley, President of the People's National Party, that "The Parish of Kingston is to lose one of its constituencies in

the change of boundaries being drafted by the Electoral Commission." This appears to reflect a misunderstanding of the procedure now being adopted by the Electoral Advisory Committee in relation to constituency boundary changes.

The Electoral Advisory Committee intends to review the existing constituency boundaries with a view to making recommendations on the matter to the Constituency Boundaries Committee established under the Constitution. To that end the Direc-

tor of Elections has prepared proposals for the examination by the Nominated members of the Electoral Advisory Committee and thereafter for consideration by the full Committee. To date none of these proposals has been discussed at Committee level and, hence, no decision has yet been taken as to the recommendations on constituency boundaries to be made by the Electoral Advisory Committee to the Constitutional Constituency Boundaries Committee."

CSO: 3298/037

31 October 1985

## JAMAICA

## PRICE DISPUTE SNAGS ALUMINA DELIVERIES TO VENEZUELA

FL251505 Bridgetown CANA in English 1711 GMT 24 Sep 85

[Excerpts] Kingston, 24 Sep (CANA)--Jamaica's 1985 delivery of alumina to Venezuela, under a seven-year contract, remains stalled as both sides cannot agree on a price for the mineral, industry officials said today. The position remains the same, but both sides are still talking, a top industry analyst told CANA.

The agreement, for Jamaica to sell the Venezuelan state-owned aluminium company Venelum one million tonnes of alumina, came on stream in 1979; Venelum is still to take another 250,000 tonnes of alumina, before the contract expires in 1987.

Mining and Energy Minister Hugh Hart said last week that the agreement has already been renegotiated several times, and again the Venezuelans were balking at the price being asked by Jamaica.

They don't want to pay the price...but the tonnage remains to be taken, Hart said. The price being asked and the Venezuelan counter-offer were not disclosed.

With the down-turn in the international aluminium market, Venelum since 1981 has often asked Jamaican to divert the alumina to traders for delivery at a later date. Marc Rich and Philbros were the traders involved.

The Venelum contract is an important contributor to the Jamaica industry, especially in the present crisis.

Until last year, the Alumina sold to the Venezuelans was produced by one of Alcan's (Aluminum Company of Canada) two 550,000 tonne refineries here, but with the expiry of that contract, CAP is to meet the requirement.

CSO: 3298/028



JAMAICA

MANLEY, IN VIENNA, URGES CHANGES IN THIRD WORLD DEBT

FL072010 Bridgetown CANA in English 1737 GMT 7 Oct 85

[Text] Vienna, 7 Oct (CANA-REUTER)--Former Jamaican Prime Minister Michael Manley, a leading Third World spokesman, today called on developing nations to organise an international conference to force a collective rescheduling of their external debt.

Led by the Latin American debtor nations, the Third World has the capacity to use that very debt as the means to force an international conference to resolve the crisis by reorganising and rescheduling the burden, he said.

In addition to a moratorium on debt repayments, he said the conference should look at reshaping the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Bank, which lend to developing countries.

Addressing the start of a meeting called "Decolonization and After, the Future of the Third World," he said developing nations had a total debt of 1,000 billion dollars.

Manley endorsed a plan drawn up by the 1985 Cartagena conference of debtor countries to restructure debts, including the possible use of a bond-issue underwritten by creditors.

This would enable, first, the cancellation of the debt of the least developed countries and, in particular, the debt of the sub-Saharan Africa, because their proportion of the total is small and their capacity to repay virtually non-existent, Manley said.

Manley proposed that no nation would be made to repay its past debt at more than 20 per cent of its foreign exchange earnings. Interest rates should be capped, he added.

He called for the creation of a Third World secretariat attached either to the Non-Aligned Movement or the Group of 77, which represents developing countries at the United Nations.

The conference, being held at the Hofbrau, the one-time imperial palace, has been organised in part by former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky. Kreisky, now president of the Vienna Institute for Development, is set to speak tomorrow.

CSO: 3298/038

JAMAICA

JAMAICAN DOLLAR PLUNGES AGAIN, CROSSES \$6-BARRIER

FL041735 Bridgetown CANA in English 1704 GMT 4 Oct 85

[Text] Kingston, 4 Oct (CANA)--The Jamaican dollar plunged downward for the 10th consecutive parity fixing auction and, in the process, crossed the six-dollar exchange barrier against the U.S. dollar.

From today, banks here are selling the U.S. dollar at J6.01 dollars, representing a three-cents loss at yesterday's Central Bank auction.

This means that the Jamaican dollar is now worth 16.6 cents, against 56 cents in November 1983, when the government devalued it and introduced mechanisms to allow for further declines under agreements with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

The Jamican currency is under severe pressure because of the country's severe foreign exchange and balance of payments problems, compounded by the decline in the key bauxite/alumina sector, continued poor performance by traditional agricultural exports and uneven developments in industry and other areas.

The problem is highlighted by the fact that at yesterday's auction U.S. 6.1 million dollars chased the U.S. 2.5 million dollars made available by the Central Bank.

The renewed tumbling of the Jamican dollar started on 3 September, following a spell of moderate declines that required from March to August for it to move from J5.50 dollars to J5.77 for one U.S.

Officials here quietly express concern over the continued decline, saying that it has long since passed the exchange rate required to make the island's exports competitive.

The Seaga government is against a fixed exchange rate, saying it would cause greater problems in terms of inflation and black marketeering.

Officials hope that the Jamaican dollar will gain some strength or at least stabilise when the winter tourist season begins to pick up and there is a greater inflow of foreign exchange. In the meantime, however, the administration is finding it difficult to put enough funds into the auction to satisfy claimants who, as a result, bid up the value of the American dollar.

CSO: 3298/038

JAMAICA

GOVERNMENT SAID TO HAVE UPPER HAND IN WAR ON DRUGS

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 11 Sep 85 pp 1, 3

[Excerpts]

KINGSTON, (Jampress)

The Jamaican Government at present appears to have the upper hand in the fight against the production of ganja and the trafficking of the drug to other countries, particularly the United States.

Whether the country will eventually win the battle depends on its ability to harness the resources to wage a continuous campaign with up-to-date surveillance and intelligence methods and equipment as well as to replace ganja with food crops.

The economies of some small rural villages in the country depend to a large extent on ganja.

Using resources that could be better deployed in other areas the country has been able to reduce the production and trafficking of ganja significantly.

At the end of June, the Narcotics Division said that ganja production, except for small pockets in mountainous terrain which can only be reached by helicopter, was eradicated.

Between January and June 1985, 1,712 acres were destroyed and 170,000 lb. of cured ganja seized by the security forces compared with

417 acres destroyed and 254,600 lb. of cured ganja seized during the corresponding period last year. In the last six months of 1984, 656 acres were eradicated and 195,985 lb. seized.

A spokesman for the Division explains that the reason for the big drop in the quantity of cured ganja seized was that so many ganja fields were destroyed that the big dealers were hard put to find ganja to process and smuggle out of the country.

This pressure as well as the offensive against the smuggling of ganja from Jamaica into the United States and the drive by the Income Tax Department to collect income tax from them have angered some of the big ganja dealers, according to reports from a reliable source. Last year the dealers hit back by burning sugar cane fields.

However, they took to their heels when sugar workers threatened retaliatory action.

Because of its UN obligations, some far-reaching steps have been taken by the Government to stop the smuggling of ganja to the United States and other countries.

These include:

- \* Placing security at the two inter-

national airports under the control of the police and increasing the number of sniffer dogs.

- \* Declaring all aerodromes military airports.

- \* Destroying 30 illegal airstrips since the beginning of this year.

- \* Banning all unauthorised flights over Jamaica's air space, seizing aircraft and imposing fines of between J\$20,000 and J\$100,000 and in some cases prison sentence as well, for breaches.

- \* Heavier fines and longer prison sentences for persons found guilty of narcotics drug offences have been imposed by judges since the beginning of this year.

- \* So far this year U.S. citizens including four pilots have been both fined and sent to prison.

Tighter security at the Norman Manley International Airport in Kingston since January has resulted in ganja destined for the United States being intercepted in 55 cases.

There is no question that the Government is now on top, but intelligence reports say that the large ganja growers are planting again.

"The security forces are preparing for a new offensive", the spokesman for the Narcotics Division says.

CSO: 3298/027

JAMAICA

AMERICANS HIT FOR GANJA ROLE; ALTERNATIVES URGED

New 'Prohibition' Exercise

Kingston THE SUNDAY GLEANER in English 15 Sep 85 p 12

[Article by Morris Cargill]

[Text]

**I**t is time, I think, that Jamaicans took a bit of time off from beauty contests and other trivial pursuits and gave some thought to the racketeering and gangsterism which, if left inadequately controlled, will eventually erode the process of law and order.

The history of prohibition in the U.S.A. should have warned us. Once some article of consumption becomes in general demand it is useless trying to repress it by law. Indeed, it is worse than useless, for the attempt fosters a disregard for the law and the creation of a criminal underground, and the end result is a pervading gangsterism which is far worse in its effects than anything which could result from the use of the article sought to be repressed.

From the moment that a serious attempt was made to suppress the use of ganja in Jamaica and to make its export illegal, the history of gangsterism in Jamaica started to be written. Perhaps Jamaica, left on its own, would have been wiser, and ganja eventually legalized; for at one time, some years ago, there was a strong movement to do so. This is not to say that ganja is a good and admirable thing. It is not. No euphoric state induced by drugs is good. Scotch Whisky is hardly the drink of Paradise. But the unwise have no understanding of gradations, or of the fact that all things can be both

good and bad. Weighed in the balance it would have been better for ganja to have been made legal.

Unfortunately the decision was not left in our own hands. The U.S.A., from whom all blessings flow, and which is probably the largest single producer of marijuana in the world, decided on another era of Prohibition. Once that was decided, it was decided for us too.

### Forbidden-fruit syndrome

The consequences for Jamaica have been appalling. As the demand for marijuana increased in the U.S.A., largely by reason of the Forbidden-Fruit Syndrome, the demand for Jamaican exports also increased. But Jamaica has

neither the sophistication nor the means to operate a large illicit export trade into the U.S.A. Some 90% of our export trade in marijuana is run by Americans.

Whole districts and villages are corrupted by visits from Americans who scatter money around like confetti. The ganja delivered to them subsequently is paid for in a number of ways; by cash, obviously, but also by large amounts of consumer goods, such as T.V. sets and so on, brought in by the "ganja" aircraft; and by some arms.

The latest method of payment or part payment is even more sinister. Low-grade cocaine is brought in.

It is commonly thought that cocaine and some of the other hard drugs are brought here as a half-way station on the route to the U.S.A. This is partly true; but cocaine

is also brought in to pay for marijuana. Considerable numbers of Jamaicans are finding out that to use the paraphernalia of smoking marijuana is a more clumsy and less convenient way of getting a "high" than sniffing cocaine. It is by no means absurd to say that the use of cocaine in some circles here, is gradually displacing the use of marijuana. From there, it is but a short step to pushing it in schools; and in some fashionable and wealthy circles it has become exceedingly chic to serve cocaine at parties.

## American operations

Very nearly everything in this trade is organised by Americans. Jamaicans grow the ganja, of course. But from farm-gate onwards the aircraft and nearly everything else are American operations. And spreading out from all this, I am sorry to report, is the inevitable corruption of our police, which is now alarmingly widespread. Here, too, even the army is not immune.

What I have written will be nothing new to our government, or to Mr. Parnell Charles, a minister of great courage and integrity (in spite of sundry vicious rumours to the contrary). Mr. Charles is of necessity in the forefront of the battle to suppress this new gangsterism, and the area around Jamaica is full of U.S. submarines, ships and aircraft designed to shut off the export trade from Jamaica.

But I am sorry to tell Mr. Charles that he has a hard time before him. The Age of Innocence has passed. Humpty Dumpty has fallen off the wall, and all the submarines and ships of the U.S. navy will not be able to

put him together again. So far as Jamaica is concerned, it is difficult to contain gangsterism which is operated chiefly by Americans and sustained by large amounts of American money, when the very local forces Mr. Charles must use are themselves tainted by corruption. Yet somehow this corruption must be contained, if Jamaica is to continue a fit place in which to live.

## Without solutions

Air Jamaica gets most of the blame and the publicity concerning illicit exports; but in fairness it must be recorded that the aircraft of both American Airlines and Eastern Airlines have been caught with marijuana aboard. Container-ships and others are also used for massive exports.

In spite of the fact that none of us likes to think that problems cannot be solved, there are such things as problems without solutions, in the short term anyway. Once the U.S.A. began to set up a new Prohibition in the U.S. and in this hemisphere, it set up a train of events inevitably leading to a new gangsterism, a new corruption, the consequence of which, for a small and poor country, are much more serious than in a large and prosperous one.

We must, of course, cope if we can with our own problems. But it is fair to ask the U.S.A. when next our planes are subjected to fines, and when next assorted Congressmen are tempted to threats against, and self-righteous condemnation of Jamaica, to remember that while Jamaica has for years grown ganja, the recent growth of export gangsterism has been an almost exclusive American creation.

## Call for Economic Alternative

Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 20 Sep 85 p 21

[Text]

Western Bureau:

Jamaica could be trapped indefinitely in the vicious cycle of drug abuse if alternative employment and means of economic survival are not provided for those currently engaged in the illicit trade.

So said Minister without portfolio in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Sen. Oswald Harding as he addressed journalists in Montego Bay on Wednesday, September 18.

Speaking on the problems of drug abuse in Jamaica, Senator Harding said that in addressing the drug problem Jamaica must first recognize the economic implications eradication would have and consider the pragmatic approach of crop substitution; thereby offering an alternative to producers and dealers in the trade.

The Senator said: "It is not enough to merely tell or force people to stop growing ganja. Intelligent approaches must be found to grow alternative

crops which will give equal returns wherever possible... economic survival has been an important consideration for many producers and traffickers."

He noted, with alarm, the fact that the country did not have the physical or human resources to adequately deal with the problem, particularly with the aspect of rehabilitation.

Jamaica, he said, was becoming increasingly vulnerable to the effects of what he termed 'foreign' drugs; (those not produced locally, such as cocaine and heroine) and called for a greater thrust in educating the public on the ill-effects of misused and abused drugs.

But, Senator Harding noted, one of the major obstacles which face those individuals and organizations fighting the problem, is the general attitude of indifference taken towards the abuse of drugs socially accepted.

He said: "We do not readily question the use of alcohol and ganja for medical, social or religious

purposes. That bias has created difficulty for many people to recognize and acknowledge the abuse of drugs, until the dire consequences manifest themselves."

Speaking to members of the Jamaica Association of Journalists (JAJ) at their quarterly luncheon at the Casa Montego Hotel, the Senator challenged the professionals to become more involved in informing the public on the ills of drug abuse.

CSO: 3298/038

JAMAICA

BRIEFS

**FACTORY CLOSING**—Goodyear Jamaica Company, the sole manufacturer of tyres and tubes, in Jamaica is to shut down its plant for one month because of what the company calls "a serious reduction in sales" of tyres brought about by a combination of low local demand and deregulation. The over 300 workers at the plant near Morant Bay, St. Thomas will not be laid off but will be paid and sent out into the community to do voluntary work for the month and help in the maintenance of the plant. The one-month closure will become effective from December 6, this year, near the end of a \$7-million modernization programme at the plant to increase efficiency and bring it nearer to Goodyear international quality standards. Reactions have already come from St. Thomas where Goodyear is the single major employer outside of the sugar factor in Duckenfield. Councillors at Thursday's meeting of the St. Thomas Parish Council expressed shock at news of the shutdown. Councillor Roosevelt Barrant said if the company was forced to close it would be tragedy for the parish. He asked: "What has St. Thomas done why it cannot get any blessing? Both Bowden Wharf and Serge Island (Sugar Factory) are dead and rest in peace and Duckenfield (Sugar Factory) is now in a coma, what is next?" [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 14 Sep 85 pp 1, 3]

**CHICKEN PRICE INCREASE**—The price of chicken meat went up again yesterday but there was no official announcement as to the retail price to consumers. The new wholesale price is reportedly \$3.95 a pound up from \$3.70. The price of chicken meat has been decontrolled therefore the price to the consumer will depend on the particular store that chicken is purchased. At least one retailer has indicated that the new price will be \$4.94 for frozen chicken. Frozen chicken was being sold at \$4.13 in some places and that was a cut price. A spokesman for Caribbean Broilers confirmed the increase and said it was due mainly to the devaluation of the Jamaican dollar, continuous increases including increased wages to Caribbean Broilers staff and increased motor vehicle expenses. [Excerpt] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Sep 85 p 1]

**BANANA PROFITS**—The Jamaica Banana Producers Association Ltdl, (JBPA) net profits for the six months ended June 30, 1985 are up by a substantial 125.1 per cent over the same period in 1984, on a 58.9 per cent increase in revenue. Net profit increased from \$2.3 million in the 1984 period to \$5.2 million in 1985, an increase of \$2.9 million. Revenue moved up from \$152.3 million to \$242.0 million, an increase of \$89.7 million. Financial circles attribute a

significant portion of the profit increase to the devaluation of the Jamaican dollar. A financial analyst said "At least one company has benefited significantly from devaluation." The main activities of the company and its subsidiary companies consist of agricultural production, the marketing and distribution of bananas and other fresh produce, the holding of investments and the operation of a travel agency. [Excerpts] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 19 Sep 85 p 1]

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LAYOFFS--Jamaica's Ministry of Health said yesterday 120 health workers will be dismissed from the (Belview Chest) and Port Maria Hospitals in the latest round of staff cuts in the island's health services system. The Ministry of Health also said other health care workers layoffs will take place at six other hospitals. [Text] [Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 5 Oct 85 FL]

YOUNG COMMUNIST PROTEST--The Young Communist League, youth arm of the Workers Party of Jamaica, says it "strongly protests the recently announced reduction of \$7 million in the budget for the Ministry of Youth". According to a release from the League, the proposed cuts, which will severely affect children's homes, places of safety and youth camps islandwide, is "cynical and insulting considering that the Government spent \$2 million from the national budget and raised US\$12 million in foreign donation for the holding of what has been described as a partisan and largely unsuccessful International Youth Conference earlier this year which was of no benefit to the Jamaican youths". The release called on youth sections of the major political parties, the youth fellowships of all religious denominations, the national organizations representing students and young trade unionists to "unite around a programme of defending the interests of the youth in our country." "We further call on the masses of youth in the workplaces, the communities, the churches or in the schools to urge their clubs and organizations to strongly and actively resist these crippling economic and social consequences of Prime Minister Seaga's pro-imperialist policies". [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 9 Sep 85 p 12]

ATTACK ON HOTEL RACISM--A call for the cancelling of hotel licences of any tourism enterprise which practised class or colour discrimination has been made in a notice of motion given in the Senate by Opposition Senator Charles Sinclair. He also said that a probe should be carried out to find out the validity of allegations made in this regard and a report submitted to Parliament. Senator Sinclair's resolution reads: "Whereas the alleged class/colour discrimination at a Montego Bay Hotel has generated widespread concern among Jamaicans; "And whereas this concern could lead to grave vulnerability in an already fragile industry; "And whereas the existence of such discrimination constitutes an offence to the self-respect and personal worth of the Jamaican people; "And whereas the success of tourism is crucial to the recovery of the Jamaican economy; "Be it resolved that no stones be left unturned to determine the validity of the allegations and a report submitted to Parliament; "And be it further resolved that the licence of any tourism enterprise which practises class/colour discrimination be revoked." [Text] [Kingston THE DAILY GLEANER in English 7 Sep 85 p 1]

CSO: 3298/028



MEXICO

DEFENSE SECRETARY SPEAKS ON BUDGET, ENLISTMENTS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 25 Aug 85 STATES section p 1

[Excerpt] Guadalajara, Jalisco, 24 August--The secretary of national defense, Div Gen Juan Arevalo Gardoqui, has claimed that there is calm and social peace in the country, denying that there are groups upsetting social order because of the crisis confronting Mexico.

He remarked that the budget cuts would not affect the Army, observing that the drug traffic was being combated seriously, in close cooperation with the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, and that "we have achieved an 80 percent reduction."

Arevalo Gardoqui was interviewed after the presentation of gilded wings to five officers and 59 cadets from the Air Academy, at a brief ceremony held at the Zapopan air base.

He said that, this year, the requests for admission to the Military Academy in all its areas totaled 18,000 youths; adding that they would be impossible to accommodate, and that only 1,200 would be accepted. And, of 3,600 applications for entry into the Military Medical School, only 100 will be accepted.

He commented that, throughout the country, the Army is conducting "Operation Locust," whereby highly favorable results have been accrued; because this is the season when the harvesting of marijuana and poppy crops begins.

In addressing the new pilots, he said that pessimism is a disease and a nostalgia, noting that, therefore, the Armed Forces institution is important to Mexico, as a career which does not tolerate pettiness, selfishness or meanness. On the contrary, they represent selfless dedication on behalf of Mexico.

He said that the Federal Government's budget cuts would not affect the Army, "because we have a very special organic law."

Also presiding over the ceremony was the Mexican Air Force commander, Gen Miguel Mendoza Marquez; the state governor, Enrique Alvarez del Castillo; the Padema Wing general, Angel Gonzalez Moreno, director of the Air Academy; and the brigadier general, Minister Santillo Feria, commander of the Fifth Military Zone.

2909

CSO: 3248/5

MEXICO

DURAZO MORENO    LAWYERS SPLIT OVER BEST DEFENSE STRATEGY

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 17 Sep 85 p 4-A

[Text] The defense for the former Mexico City chief of police, Arturo Durazo Moreno, has finally decided to resort to the legal expedients offered by U.S. legislation to extend his stay in the United States, and today, in the Los Angeles Federal Court, it will submit the first appeal against the decision considering the former official extraditable to Mexico.

Juan Velazquez Evers, head of Arturo Durazo's defense, announced that the attorneys would attempt to extend their client's stay to a year, in order to seek a suitable strategy for his defense in Mexico, rather than to prevent his extradition.

Durazo Moreno's defender claimed that some lawyers on the defense team preferred that the former police chief be taken to Mexico immediately, so as to defend him "with good chances" in Mexican courts; but other litigators, while agreeing that the Durazo Moreno case "is a political-type matter," preferred that his arrival in Mexico be delayed so that "the political intentions would decline."

Nevertheless, Velazquez is of the opinion that Arturo Durazo's arrival in Mexico within 9 months or a year is "almost inevitable." The representative of the former police chief's defense in Los Angeles, Bernard Zulermund, is appearing today in the Los Angeles court to file the first appeal in a series of pleas to which the defenders will resort, even going so far as to appeal the State Department's potential decision.

Velazquez does not regard Judge Voleney V. Brown's decision considering Arturo Durazo to be extraditable as entirely adverse, because there are areas untouched by the judge which the lawyers will use to reduce the burden of charges weighing upon Durazo, like smuggling, threats carried out in the degree of extortion and arms collection.

Meanwhile, the official, a native of Cumpas, Sonora, has already spent a year and 5 months incarcerated in a Los Angeles federal prison.

2909  
CSO: 3248/5

MEXICO

PERMISSION FOR COINVESTMENT PLAN INVOLVING CHRYSLER DENIED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 6 Sep 85 pp 5-A, 28-A

[Excerpts] The Intersecretariat Automotive Industry Commission--comprised of the Secretariats of Finance and Commerce--has denied authorization for the coinvestment plan between Chrysler de Mexico and Trailers de Monterrey to manufacture heavy trucks, because, among other reasons, the former does not have a modern technology for the building of units of this type and does not manufacture a Diesel engine of its own. The latter would have to be obtained from third-party suppliers, thus limiting the proposed joint venture's potential for exporting its vehicles.

The Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development [SECOFIN] also affirms, in a detailed statement, that this denial is not related to the problem of foreign investment but rather to the rationalization of Mexico's automotive industry, "wherein, owing to the small size of the heavy-truck market, and to its very limited demand growth outlook, the sharing of this sector by various enterprises at this point cannot be permitted."

The official report points out that the intent of the 1983 Automotive Decree, with respect to the construction of Diesel engines for trucks, trailer trucks and complete buses, was to limit these activities exclusively to firms whose majority ownership was Mexican. It has also been stipulated, according to officials of SECOFIN, that there shall be only two manufacturers of heavy trucks:

"This," the Secretariat states, "is based on the size of the domestic market, its demand growth expectations, and the country's own productive structure."

Actually, according to the most recent internationally available data, the minimum annual competitive production volume for a single enterprise exceeds the total size of our domestic market, which, according to public and private projections, "will hardly attain 25,000 units by 1989, and," states the Secretariat of Commerce, "will remain around the level of 20,000 units annually over the next 3 years until then."

Nevertheless, according to the latter secretariat, it was decided to foster the existence of two enterprises for the sake of a healthy competition for

the good of the consumer, making it incumbent on the manufacturers to attain the volumes necessary for efficient production through significant programs for the export of their vehicles.

#### DINA Coinvests With General Motors

Based on these guidelines, according to SECOFIN, DINA [National Diesel] began a program of negotiations, towards the end of 1983, with different truck manufacturers throughout the world, in search of a technology transfer and a possible input of capital that would enable DINA to modernize its production lines with the latest technology and to position itself to compete for export markets.

After "a wide-ranging negotiation process," DINA decided to enter into a joint venture with General Motors Corporation as regards technology and capital.

Successively, the private company FAMSA [Mexican Automotive Vehicle Factory], which is the second heavy-truck manufacturing company whose majority ownership is Mexican, also initiated negotiations with automotive manufacturing firms, with the object of entering into a coinvestment project that would enable it--in accordance with the official version--"to modernize its technology and achieve the quality necessary to be able to export."

As a result of this process, SECOFIN specifies, FAMSA entered into a joint venture with Daimler Benz, the German firm that manufactures Mercedes Benz trucks.

SECOFIN emphasizes that "With the attainment of these two associations between Mexican firms and foreign companies for the manufacture of heavy trucks, the Federal Government finds the objectives satisfied that were set forth in the 1983 Automotive Decree."

#### No to Chrysler-TM Pact

Despite this situation, the foreign firm Chrysler de Mexico and the national firm Trailers de Monterrey submitted a new plan, around the end of last May, to manufacture trucks, including heavy trucks.

Both these firms submitted the quantitative information regarding the project to the Commission concerned "and had several meetings at different levels to clarify details and hear the viewpoints of the plan's promoters and of different agencies of the public sector," the Secretariat of Commerce pointed out.

Based on the information thus obtained, on the analysis made of the project itself, on the provisions of the cited Automotive Decree, and on the above-described prior proceedings--states SECOFIN--the Intersecretariat Automotive Industry Commission, at its regular meeting of 7 August 1985, "recommended that the subject coinvestment not be authorized, considering that domestic

demand over the next 5 years does not justify having three manufacturers, the two applicant firms in this proceeding having been notified of this on 19 August just past."

In addition to the foregoing, SECOFIN states, the Commission took into consideration that the Chrysler Corporation of the United States "stopped producing and marketing heavy trucks several years ago, as a result of which it definitely does not have a modern technology to bring to the manufacture of units of this type."

It should be noted that Chrysler had the opportunity to join forces with DINA and with FAMSA, since both were open to considering any offer. As a matter of fact, in 1983, the American transnational notified SECOFIN that it was on the verge of entering negotiations with FAMSA on a joint venture to manufacture trucks. As is known, however, the Mexican firm's final decision was to coinvest with Mercedes Benz.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, it should be pointed out that the Intersecretariat Automotive Industry Commission indicated in its recommendation--and the two firms were so notified--that coinvestment between Chrysler and Trailers de Monterrey was still possible and viable "provided and when such coinvestment was limited to the manufacture of commercial and light trucks, trailer trucks and trailers, since both companies are presently authorized to produce units of this type."

In actual fact, according to SECOFIN, the Commission authorized between 80 and 90 percent of the total coinvestment plan submitted, since the manufacture of heavy trucks "represents a minimal part" of the plan's total production.

#### Problem of Rationalization

The Commission also conveyed to Chrysler de Mexico that it considered favorable and of "great interest" the additional automobile-export programs that firm had submitted tentatively, since, if realized, they would be of substantial benefit to the country in terms of the employment and foreign exchange they would generate.

In conclusion, SECOFIN finds that "The Chrysler de Mexico and Trailers de Monterrey matter can be stated not to be a problem of foreign investment, since foreign participation by General Motors and Mercedes Benz in the manufacture of heavy trucks in Mexico has already been authorized."

9399

CSO: 3248/3

MEXICO

FAVORED CONTENDERS LOSE TABASCO PRI MUNICIPAL NOMINATIONS

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 11 Sep 85 STATES section p 4

[Article by Armando Sepulveda]

[Text] Villahermosa, Tabasco, 10 Sep--The people of Tabasco reacted with surprise today when the official results of the 17 PRI primary elections for Tabasco mayors were made public. Still incredulous, four of the candidates supported by Governor Enrique Gonzalez Pedrero were having trouble swallowing tonight's verdict: they failed to get the nominations.

In what was a brand new procedure for the people of Tabasco in the land of Carlos Madrazo, the initial promoter of PRI democratization, several cacique groups resorted to cheating to secure their candidates' victory, but others went down to defeat in spite of their undemocratic ruses.

High-level state government officials were also among the losers.

According to a survey conducted by this reporter, the consensus in PRI is that the mayors, who control political power in their municipalities and have ample funding, could become "the new electoral caciques" in future contests, inasmuch as this time they ignored "all of the higher-ups" who were telling them to keep their hands off the process and stop backing their friends.

Guadalupe Rivera, Luis Fernando Sanchez, Luis Alberto Lopez Velasco and Miguel Enriquez Gonzalez Calzada, PRI members who represent the three candidates who ran in the municipality of Teapa, said that for the first time their party's top echelon allowed members to vote for the candidates who would be running for mayor in this November's constitutional elections.

According to the PRI delegate general, Jose Antonio Alvarez Lima, the turnout for last Sunday's primaries "was so large that all of the pressures that were applied were negated by the secret ballot."

Now that the results of the elections have been made public, the PRI rank and file is saying that "the governor was behind several candidates, but their defeats show that he kept out of the process. There were, however, mayors who tried to get them or their friends in."

Some hopefuls did, nevertheless, use the name of the governor, "who supports me wholeheartedly," to frighten other PRI members into not running. They thus had a clear, unobstructed path. For example, Ruben Dario Vidal Ramos resigned as president of the State Superior Court of Justice, "where I was very happy, without further ambitions, because Governor Gonzalez Pedrero asked me to run in the municipality of Cardenas." This was his campaign slogan, and it stopped strong opponents from registering.

The primary in Teapa was won by Dr Vicente Cano, a member of a family of caciques, though he is not that closely linked to his relatives. The loser there was Aristides Prats, the former secretary general of government, a former federal congressman, the current leader of banana growers and a cacique. Cano used his wits to triumph. His campaign consisted of saying to PRI members: "The other guy, Prats, is the governor's candidate. Are you going to let them put one over on us again?"

A modest department head from the secretariat general of government, Lenin Medina, resigned his post and headed for Jalpa de Mendez to defeat Andres Madrigal, an official who has done all of the official work on the Indians in that area for the governor's wife, Julieta Campos. The bureaucrat committed himself to the sectional committees with a municipal program and during his campaign said: "The governor doesn't have a candidate here, but his wife does."

#### The Good Guy Lost

Francisco Hernandez, a shy merchant and cattleman without prior political experience, received the backing of the other candidates and thus defeated "the governor's candidate, the former president of the municipal PRI group, Lenin Bocanegra," in Macuspana.

Darwin Gonzalez Ballina, a state congressman on leave of absence, was the winner in Balancan "over the governor's personal choice, Isabel Camara Cabrales," who had "a strong recommendation from Gonzalez Avelar."

Meanwhile, in the main municipality, Villahermosa, former federal Congressman Amador Izundegui had no opposition after PRI members learned that "he has the support of Bartlett Diaz."

Fredy Sable, the current president of the state PRI group as well as leader of the CNOP [National Confederation of Popular Organizations] and the State Congress, also wanted to run but decided, under the circumstances, not to register.

Paraiso was the scene of traditional irregularities. The local Oil Workers Union section used its money and PEMEX vehicles to bring in workers from other states to vote, thus easily securing the nomination for former Registry Office official Ciro Burelo. Contrary to predictions, Manuel Morasau, the mayor's candidate, city hall secretary and local PRI leader, and Arturo Maldonado, who resigned as president of the Conciliation and Arbitration Board to run, lost.

In Huimanguillo, Vertino Moreno enjoyed the total support of the CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] and oil workers leader Andres Sanchez Solis (the governor backed his bid for the nomination "but asked the mayor and the local PRI leader to play it clean") but lost to Cesar Ravelo, a city employee.

The mayors of Huimanguillo, Centla, Tenocique and Paraiso were the ones who paid the least heed to the orders "to keep their hands off."

In Tenocique, a municipality that borders Guatemala, the victor was local politician Irineo Garcia, who bested the three candidates proposed by "cacique Manuel Llergo Heredia," a former mayor, a former leader of the Tabasco CNC [National Peasant Confederation] and of the state PRI organization, a former federal congressman and the current coordinator of the Chontalpa Plan, who controls a budget of over 12 billion pesos.

The national PRI organization decided on and announced the primaries in Tabasco with just 10 days notice. Governor Gonzalez Pedrero, who is regarded as one of the ruling party's main ideologues and has already served as its secretary general, said that "there is no reason to fear the people. We came from the people and to the people we must return. Democracy in Mexico begins in the municipality."

State PRI members feel that Gonzalez Pedrero "will be going to the national PRI organization" as president shortly. And since he is about to leave, they say, several mayors "meddled in the elections because 'since he's out of the state, back there in PRI, no one's going to bother us because we're leaving.'"

After voting for their mayoral candidates for the first time, PRI members in Tabasco want to see another show of democracy in PRI within 3 years so that they, the rank and file, can regain credibility in these matters, Guadalupe Rivera said.

8743

CSO: 3248/21



MEXICO

# DISGRUNTLED CHIAPAS PRI MUNICIPAL CONTENDERS SWITCH TO PAN

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 13 Sep 85 STATES section pp 1,7

[Excerpt] Tuxtla Gutierrez, Chiapas, 12 Sep--In the wake of the state PRI organization's refusal to replace its mayoral candidates in the elections next 17 November, most of the PRI members who took over city halls and party buildings and kidnapped party delegates have decided to toe the line but have registered their candidates under the PAN [National Action Party] banner.

Meanwhile, PAN leader Omar Jimenez Leon said: "The barefaced impositions that PRI resorted to in the 109 municipalities in the state for the mayoral elections will be duly utilized to demonstrate that PRI is a paper monster in Chiapas that avails itself of government support to get ahead."

The people blockading the city of Mazatlan departed for fear that public safety agents would evict them. Meanwhile, in Tuxtla Chico, Celso Armento Cancino, who has belonged to PRI for more than 40 years, switched to the opposition when Juvenal Colmenares was selected as a candidate and has received 2.5 million pesos in campaign contributions so far.

In Arriaga, a group of PRI members refused to allow David Corzo Castillejos to be imposed on them and nominated Fernando Aquino.

The PAN candidate in this city is Federico Valdes Galan and the PRI candidate is Didier Cruz Fuentevilla; both have been rejected by the population at several gatherings.

8743

CSO: 3248/21

MEXICO

JUDGE FROM 1981 GALLARDO CASE REASSIGNED

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 5 Sep 85 p 36-A

[Text] The third district judge of Tijuana, Baja California, Jose Angel Morales Ibarra, who in 1981 released the drug trafficker, Miguel Felix Gallardo, currently a fugitive, having been identified, along with Rafael Caro Quintero and Ernesto Fonseca, as a perpetrator of the death of the DEA agent, Enrique Camarena Salazar, "for lack of merits," has been removed from his post at the order of the Supreme Court of Justice of the Nation.

The reasons for his change of position and his new assignment are unknown; it was apparently after the president of the Supreme Court of Justice ordered an investigation of the administrator of justice.

Morales Ibarra released Miguel Felix Gallardo after the latter had appeared before the court "to explain his situation," and a magistrate had even traveled to that border town to supervise the case.

An airplane carrying slightly over 100 kilograms of pure cocaine was seized from Miguel Felix Gallardo. The pilot and two companions identified him as the owner of the drugs, and made further accusations against him regarding other shipments that had already been delivered.

Nevertheless, Judge Morales merely took his preliminary statements and, before the constitutional period expired, declared him innocent for lack of merits.

The Federal Public Ministry agents who heard about the matter did not appeal, and the drug trafficker was therefore able "to resolve his situation."

One of those officials who failed to appeal, Jaime Torres Espinosa, rather than being investigated, was promoted to regional coordinator of the PGR [Office of the Attorney General of the Republic].

2909

CSO: 3248/5

MEXICO

BORDER EXPERT: U.S. FEARS 'CHICANO,' ILLEGAL ALIEN TIES

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 14 Aug 85 STATES section pp 1, 6

[Article by Joaquin Paredes F.]

[Text] Tijuana, 13 Aug--If united, the Chicanos could put an end to the injustice, neglect and helplessness suffered by illegal workers in the United States, for their strength would be sufficient to paralyze the economy of the southeastern [sic] region of that country.

The Chicano has not rejected Mexico. On the contrary, the principal and most consistent defense of the rights of illegal workers comes from Chicano organizations, according to Jorge Bustamante, director of the Center for Northern Mexico Border Studies.

He admitted that consular protection from the Mexican Government for those illegal workers "is important and substantial," but "inadequate" to meet the overall magnitude of the problem.

As a pitiful example of the vulnerability of the undocumented worker, he cited the case of the death of illegal worker Juan Chavolla Casillas last week, a victim of pesticides used to fertilize tomato crops. He was buried a week later.

Although the undocumented worker enjoys rights established by American labor laws, Bustamante said that ignorance and unawareness prevents him from having recourse to them, which "helps employers, who can thus maintain the cheapest and least protected labor force in the entire nation."

Unions

Bustamante said that Mexicans have not properly appreciated the constant solidarity and support from Chicano trade union organizations, a pivot point in the fight against immigration laws that constitute acts of power and might on the part of a nation which, from 1952 up until the present, allows employers to hire and fire illegal workers at will with the support of immigration authorities and without their having committed any crime.

He said that from the legal standpoint in the neighboring country, the illegal worker is no more than a common criminal who violated immigration laws and that the phenomenon of entry into the country should be viewed bilaterally from the angle of the economy, for it is an undeniable fact that production in large areas of the United States depends on Mexican labor.

Bustamante emphasized that the government of the United States is concerned that one day, Chicanos and illegal workers might unite and that the media have reported a number of isolated action aimed at creating a mutual feeling of rejection, an example of the old "divide and conquer" plan.

Bustamante notes that the Chicano endeavors to maintain his cultural background, language and customs and said that until 1972, the use of Spanish was prohibited in grade schools in California. "The government of Ronald Reagan continues trying to keep the two groups apart and has already cancelled bilingual education."

11,464

CSO: 3248/509

MEXICO

MEXICO CITY METROPOLITAN AREA COST OF LIVING DATA

Cooking Oil

Mexico City EL DIA (METROPOLI supplement) in Spanish 3 Jul 85 p 9

[Excerpt] Despite the fact that its official price is 263 pesos per liter, unscrupulous dealers in working-class markets, grocery stores and other commercial establishments in the NZT [Naucalpan-Zaragoza-Tlalnepantla] zone are selling cooking oil for as much as 300 pesos, to the detriment of thousands of housewives and consumers in general.

This charge was made by the CTM [Confederation of Mexican Workers] leader, Miguel Sanchez Aleman.

Eggs, 197-200 Pesos

Mexico City EL DIA (METROPOLI supplement) in Spanish 12 Jul 85 p 9

[Text] Producers and distributors have been concealing eggs as a maneuver to procure a new authorization for the official price.

This accusation was made by Pedro Rosas Morales, a board member of the Valle de Mexico Small Dealers Union.

The leader said that there are very few eggs for sale to the public on the market.

He explained that, in the public markets, retail shops and vendors' stalls in the working-class zone on the outskirts, the product is being sold for between 197 and 200 pesos, despite the fact that its price is 160.

He admitted that Valle de Mexico poultry raisers have cut egg production, prompting both producers and distributors to conceal them, so as to pressure the commerce authorities to set a new price for them, which would be about 200 pesos, that is, as they are now being sold to the public.

He stressed that there has been a marked hiding of eggs in the state's large poultry-raising establishments, including the major Mexico City supply centers, such as La Merced, Iztapalapa and La Viga. The leader concluded by saying that, in many locations, thousands of crates of injected eggs are being

stored, while the distributors wait for the nex prices to be set, "within a few days or weeks."

#### Beans in NZT Markets

Mexico City EL DIA (METROPOLI supplement) in Spanish 15 Jul 85 p 9

[Text] A kilogram of beans (in their so-called popular varieties) is being sold for as much as 200 pesos in the working-class markets, vendors' stalls and other commercial establishments in the NZT zone.

According to the sampling taken, Queretaro black and cocona beans cost 200 pesos in the municipalities' main towns, while the price increases in the suburbs of the working-class urban communities.

A few days ago, a kilogram of eggs cost between 195 and 200 pesos; a piece of white bread ("bollillo y telera [rolls]), 10 pesos; rice was being sold for between 180 and 200 pesos per kilogram; a liter of oil for 250 pesos; and milk in a four-pack, for 100 pesos.

Despite the high cost of these products, unscrupulous dealers have been speculating with Carnation milk, beans of the "preferred varieties," cooking oil, rice, etc., based on the results of the poll taken in the working-class zone of Naucalplan, Atizapan de Zaragoza and Tlalnepantla (NZT zone).

#### Eggs, 240 Pesos

Mexico City EL DIA (METROPOLI supplement) in Spanish 20 Jul 85 p 1

[Excerpt] Despite the fact that the price of eggs is 160 pesos per kilogram, dealers are selling them for 240 pesos to the consumer; a practice which is now widespread in the Federal District and the metropolitan area.

In some public markets, such as the one in the Colonia Romero Rubio, dealers argue that sellers have started to sell them the product of prime necessity, without prior notification, for between 100 and 160 pesos per kilogram; thereby forcing them to raise their cost to the consumer.

The dealers, who have not forgotten the practices of concealing goods or making the sale thereof subject to conditions, declared that for some time, poultry raisers have been asking the Secretariat of Commerce and Development for an increase in the cost of food, because that of supplies has risen.

#### Eggs, 200-220 Pesos

Mexico City EL DIA (METROPOLI supplement) in Spanish 20 Jul 85 p 9

[Text] Without prior notification or official permission, unscrupulous dealers in Valle de Mexico have raised the price of "white" eggs to 200 pesos, and that of "brown" eggs to 220.

31 October 1985

A tour of the Pochteca market in Naucalpan, the Ignacio Zaragoza market in Atizapan and the Filiberto Gomez market in Tlalnepantla served to show that, actually, dealers and tenant shop-keepers are not selling eggs for 160 pesos, which is the official price set by SECOFIN [Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development].

In some locations, conditions are imposed on egg sales, while certain dealers are selling only the product (just 1 kilogram) to consumers.

Upon being questioned, the dealer Rogelio Martinez remarked that, "The distributors are delivering eggs to us for 160 pesos per kilogram."

In other places, their sale is not even being advertised, while on certain farms in NTZ, eggs are sold for 15 pesos apiece.

#### Cooking Oil, 350 Pesos

Mexico City EL DIA (METROPOLI supplement) in Spanish 28 Jul 85 p 1

[Text] With the orders issued by the Secretariat of Commerce and Industrial Development disregarded by dealers in the State of Mexico, cooking oil is still being sold for as much as 350 pesos per liter and, in locations such as La Merced, the product is being concealed, awaiting authorization for a rise in its price soon.

Concealment has been going on in La Merced for several months, and the dealers point out that this is due to the fact that the distributors are not supplying them with the product on the usual regular basis; and that, although SECOFIN claims that there will be no increase in the price of oil, the oil producers are maintaining their position of demanding an increase and giving assurance that they will procure it shortly.

Meanwhile, in many towns of the Mexico State municipalities of Ecatepec and Nezahualcoyotl, cooking oil is being sold for as much as 50 percent more than the officially approved price of 249 pesos per liter; and, furthermore, the lack of inspectors who were supposed to prevent this type of abuse, as promised by SECOFIN, is evident.

The housewives from the eastern part of the Iztapalapa jurisdiction noted that, if the situation marked by high prices and concealment of staple products continues, they will mobilize to demand that the pertinent authorities engage in effective intervention to put an end to the speculative practices that are increasingly hurting the already weak financial status of families from low-income classes.

#### Water, 300 Pesos

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Jul 85 STATES section pp 1, 4

[Text] Ecatepec, Mexico, 27 July--Thousands of persons residing on the slopes of the Guadalupe sierra and in the high-lying areas of the municipality are

without water. The small supply arriving here through private or municipal water tank truck operators disappears immediately. Water has also become a source of profit for the distributors, because of the extreme need of those demanding it.

El Chipote, Atzolco, Tablas del Pozo, San Andres de la Canada, El Mirador, Tierra Blanca Bellavista and Hank Gonzalez, among other colonias [urban communities], whose leaders claim to be PRI [Institutional Revolutionary Party] members, are now demanding a response from those who came here in search of a vote and offered, in exchange for it, water, which has not yet arrived.

The chairman of the Municipal Cooperation Council of Colonia Hank Gonzalez, Marcelino Vera Mendoza, along with the neighborhood representatives from Atzolco and Tablas del Pozo, Federico Gonzalez Lara and Manuel Herrera Martinez, respectively, pointed out that thousands of residents are suffering from the acute water shortage. They commented: "The water tank truck operators, both private and municipal, when they arrive in these remote locations, sell us the liquid for up to 300 pesos per drum [usually 200 liters]. This is criminal, because most of those of us living in these locations earn very low income and lack the most fundamental services."

The neighborhood leaders claimed that "most of us residents of these colonias are PRI members. Despite the promises, neither the water, nor the sewer systems nor any other service has been given to us."

"When everything was fine for the candidates, among these promises were those of the now municipal president, those of the local deputies and those of the representatives to the Congress of the Union. In the first two instances, the former candidates have not even stopped by here to find out whether we still exist."

#### Neglect

The leaders of the aforementioned colonias claimed that millions of residents in the higher locations are experiencing the most dreadful neglect. "We are only used as fools when they are trying to support someone, and they use us as cannon fodder at rallies and demonstrations. But when we protest or demand some type of service, they call us troublemakers and rebels; a stigma which has made it increasingly difficult for the authorities to listen to us."

They maintained: "We don't want anything free. We are willing to participate and cooperate. We realize the difficulty involved in providing service, but up until now, we have only been used to make certain private individuals and municipal officials rich from our needs. It is criminal that water should be sold to us for 300 pesos and more per drum."

Finally, they remarked that they had recently met with the locality's municipal president, Raul Velez Garcia who, after making them wait for over 6 hours,



promised to intervene in order to resolve their many needs. However, as on previous occasions, they were deceived. The residents of this area are very naive. The fact is that, previously, they were offered water for a vote; the latter flowed, but not the former.

#### Bread, Milk, Tomatoes

Mexico City EL DIA (METROPOLI supplement) in Spanish 31 Jul 85 p 9

[Excerpt] Cooking oil, pasta for soup, sardines, rice and beans, in their two qualities, "preferred" and "popular," are disappearing from the markets, grocery stores, authorized shops and other commercial establishments in Valle de Mexico.

The CTM leader, Miguel Sanchez Aleman, claimed that, during the past few days, the abuses with not only these staple products, but also with milk and eggs, have become widespread.

The labor representative explained that speculative dealers are engaging in this kind of speculative maneuver in order to pressure SECOFIN in this manner to grant an increase in the prices of eggs, and allow them to raise the prices of milk, rice, oil, pasta, sardines, instant coffee, etc.

For example, in bakeries a price of white bread costs 10 pesos; a kilogram of beans is sold for 250 pesos; oil costs 300 pesos; milk is 129 pesos per liter; tomatoes are 250 pesos per kilogram, etc.

2909

CSO: 3248/4

MEXICO

BRIEFS

RAILWAY WORKERS LEADER ELECTED--Following a lengthy consultation of delegates lasting over 5 hours, representatives of the 39 sections of the Union of Railway Workers of the Mexican Republic elected Jorge Peralta Vargas, from the Hero of Nacozari Group, as secretary general for the 1985-1988 term. The convention, which began at 0900 hours yesterday in a hall located under the Nonoalco Bridge, took place in a calm atmosphere, contrary to expectations, although difficult problems faced the union. Nevertheless, after 27 years, there was a breakdown of unity of union action. Members of the Trade Union Renewal Movement, opposing the Hero of Nacozari Group, proposed to both active and retired members a change aimed at improving the socioeconomic conditions of railroad workers. In principle, the Trade Union Renewal Movement formulated the struggle in order to obtain a 100-percent wage increase and avoid any increase in union dues, arguing that the economy of the workers is being hurt. However, the main objective is to remove Luis Gomez Zepeda, president for life of the Hero of Nacozari Group, blamed for the situation of railway workers and for the financial deficit of the trade union organization. The prolonged wait in beginning the work of the convention came in the midst of a calm atmosphere and it was not until after 1400 hours that the workers nominated Peralta Vargas as their leader. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 18 Aug 85 p 6-A] 11,464

CSO: 3248/509

PERU

UN ENVOY DECRIES INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER

PY101809 Paris AFP in Spanish 1908 GMT 9 Oct 85

[Excerpt] New York, 9 October (AFP)--Today Peru firmly exposed once again the foreign debt problem and called for a radical solution capable of striking at the very core of this problem: the unfair international economic order, and unfair trade between poor and rich countries.

Only two weeks after Peruvian President Alan Garcia threatened to withdraw from the IMF the Peruvian ambassador to the United Nations made a plea against the topsy-turvy new economic order in which southern countries make massive transfers of resources to the North.

Carlos Alzamora stated that we have arrived at an economic order that is even more unfavorable and unfair for developing countries because it bestows all sorts of advantages and privileges on the North and imposes all kinds of sacrifices and disadvantages on the South, making the latter pay the cost of the unequally distributed adjustments required for recovery from the crisis caused by the North.

The Peruvian representative and former secretary of the Latin American Economic System (SELA) addressed the second commission of the UNSA General Assembly, which started off on 8 October by holding a general debate on the worldwide economic situation.

According to Alzamora, the South is in the grip of a dual crisis: the economic crisis and the crisis arising from not knowing what to do about the former. In his opinion, this may be the opportunity to review models and set up effective mechanisms for concerted action.

The Peruvian representative said that the important thing is not that they should lend us the chips to go on playing, but that we have our own chips, not as a gift but as a result of fair payment for the wealth and toil of our peoples.

He went on to say that the ill-named North-South dialogue has come full circle to what it was from the very beginning: a fiction due to the North's lack of will to conduct a serious and sincere dialogue and also because the South's ideas have been distorted and twisted to our detriment, imposing a cold and egoistic pragmatism that has made international agencies meaningless.

CSO: 3348/55

PERU

# ECONOMISTS POLLED FOR OPINIONS ON APRA 'EMERGENCY PACKAGE'

Lima EQUIS X in Spanish 23 Sep 85 pp 30-31

[Text] The Experts Speak

What do you think of the "emergency economic package" that the APRA [American Revolutionary Popular Alliance] government has implemented?

Roberto Abusada

The core of the emergency program is the exchange rate and price freeze, along with a cut in interest rates.

The administration seems to be tackling the difficult fiscal situation with praiseworthy determination, basically by reducing investment and defense outlays along with an initial substantial rise in the prices of basic items (notably petroleum derivatives).

The external situation remains uncertain. The decision has been made to operate as if the external restrictions did not exist, which is correct to the extent that the country can continue not to service its debt (in fact, the debt of multilateral agencies is being serviced, which gives Peru a net positive flow).

The emergency package will undoubtedly produce immediate short-term effects in the areas of inflation and reserves. Inflation from September to December 1985 will likely run about 2.5 percent a month, which represents an annualized rate of 34 percent and will give us a 1985 inflation rate of over 155 percent.

I think that 1/2 DE CAMBIO was right to ask only about the 90-day outlook, inasmuch as it is impossible to offer an opinion on an important issue like reviving production without having data on: a) the probable course of rescheduling negotiations with commercial banks; b) whether the production machine is going to be geared towards domestic consumption or export; and finally c) how prepared the government is to allow the agents of production to spend dollars to replace imports (saving foreign exchange) or to generate dollars through exports.

There is also the question mark of monetary policy. If credit is loosened up too enthusiastically, it will create irresistible pressures on the exchange rate.

Augusto Blacker

If the package includes the determination and the measures that are needed to significantly cut the level of public sector spending, the program has a good chance of drastically reducing inflation. I should note, however, that so far we have not heard about the key steps that will be taken in this regard.

Javier Iguiniz

It has an essentially political significance. The fundamental variables are not being altered; in this regard, we will have to wait for the budget and the policy on capital turnover.

The most positive aspect has been to dampen speculation. An emergency package must also affect the balance of power among economic agents. This package does not seem to be designed for this purpose, and thus there are still question marks about the government's ability to restructure the economy.

Folke Kafka

It has to be complemented by an appropriate monetary policy. The emergency package needs complementary adjustments and measures to be consistent with its long-range goals. More information is needed for more accurate forecasts.

Sergio Malaga

The one-time devaluation and the temporary elimination of minidevaluations were very good moves, because the minidevaluations far surpassed the inflation rate and were its main cause. The campaign to shatter inflationary trends and expectations is good, and so is the drop in interest rates to the extent that the rates are in tune with the new (and as yet unknown) inflation outlook. The emphasis on austerity and on cutting out all superfluous government spending is very good.

Ivan Rivera

The program is incomplete. Liquidity policies have not been made clear even after the prime minister's speech.

Fernando Sanchez Albavera

The approach is correct in trying to stabilize prices, but fiscal and balance of payments measures are lacking.

Jurgen Schuldt

The general direction is correct, though some adjustments have to be made, such as:

- a. Instead of emphasizing farm price controls at the retail level, the government should gradually abolish the system of middlemen, both through transportation and warehousing cooperatives run by the peasant farmers themselves and through massive government purchases.
- b. Get rid of the dollar capital market.
- c. Modify urban consumption patterns.
- d. Ban imports of luxury items and control the others closely.
- e. Change the tax structure, emphasizing direct over indirect taxes.
- f. Bolster the national and regional planning system and assure broader participation for grassroots organizations.
- g. Regulate industrial prices, not arbitrarily but based on a thorough study of the costs of the 100 largest companies so as to assure them a suitable profit margin.

Alejandro Toledo

In my judgment, the program is conceptually sound. The final results, however, will depend on how effectively it is implemented, and I see problems here. The country is now waiting for an economic recovery program to shore up the existing anti-inflation program.

A High Public Official

It is coherent and necessary as an attempt to reduce inflation in the short run. The medium-term is not taken into account.

8743

CSO: 3348/8

PERU

# JUSTICE MINISTER ADDRESSES REFORMS, PRISONS, NEW LAWS

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Sep 85 p A-4

[Summary of interview with Justice Minister Luis Gonzales Posada; date and place not specified]

[Text] The Budget Problem

[Question] Under the constitution, the Judiciary's budget is not supposed to be less than two percent of the central government's budget. Is this being adhered to?

Dr Luis Gonzales Posada: The 1986 draft budget is being studied and adjusted by the Executive Branch through its ministers and by the Bicameral Congressional Committee. The two percent is a goal we are moving towards. The current 1985 budget will be expanded via supplementary credits.

[Question] What do the requested funds amount to?

LGP: This week we are going to submit several bills to Congress. The amounts differ. For example, there is a 40 billion soles bill for the completion of the Canto Grande, Huancayo, Trujillo and other prisons and for the remodeling of Lurigancho and other existing jails.

Canto Grande

[Question] How far along is this prison?

LGP: I hope that it is in operation by February. The water, sewage system, electric power, etc are still not in. Moreover, correctional officers have to be trained. In all, about 5 billion soles more are needed.

[Question] What sort of inmates is this penitentiary for?

LGP: That is a technical matter that the Prison Institute will decide with the proper consultation.

[Question] How is the Guvarte case moving along?

LGP: A Spanish delegation was in Lima to discuss the matter with the government. We have named a commission. Ministry attorneys, along with experts from the National Prison Institute and with assistance from the Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic, will study the entire file. They will decide what course we take: whether we continue with Guvarte, rescind the contract...

#### The Prison Problem

[Question] Have you visited Canto Grande?

LGP: Yes.

[Question] What do you think of the other prisons?

LGP: Lurigancho has a maximum capacity of 2,400 inmates, under precarious conditions, and it is handling a population of 6,700. Trujillo is designed to hold 260 inmates, and there are 2,400 there. I could say the same thing about Chorrillos, El Sexto and most of the prisons. They are not prisons; they are ghettos, human dumping grounds that lack infrastructure and services...

[Question] Are they a living hell?

LGP: They are the most horrible version of hell. In Puno there are men, women and children in veritable dungeons. There are mentally deranged inmates in Lurigancho...

#### The Judicial Problem

[Question] You have stressed the cases of the people who have not been sentenced.

LGP: Yes. This situation is an offense to human dignity. There are 6,700 inmates in Lurigancho, and only 558 of them have been sentenced. This means that 92 percent of the prison population is waiting to be sentenced. Many of them might be innocent. In Chorrillos, 129 of the 664 women inmates have received sentences. The rest do not know whether they have been found guilty or innocent.

[Question] What can be done?

LGP: Immediate action must be taken. We have sent mattresses, blankets, physicians, medicine and even water to several prisons. Concurrently, we have mobilized 50 ministry attorneys, almost all of them volunteers, to look into the legal status of the inmates, to move for the release of those who have done their time and to help those who meet the legal requirements to get out on parole...

[Question] Are there many that are eligible for this?

LGP: There are 500 that ought to apply for this right.



## The Public Ministry

[Question] You have spoken of coordination among the branches and agencies of government. How are things with the Public Ministry?

LGP: Some 200 counsels and junior counsels will be visiting all of Peru's prisons to defend human rights and to enforce the law. This is the result of my meeting with the nation's attorney general and the counsels...

## A New Bill

[Question] You said that the Executive Branch would make use of the power that it has by law to carry out indispensable reforms. What can you tell us in this regard?

LGP: We have sent Congress a prison release bill that clears the way for parole, suspended sentences and pardons for many people who have spent years in jail on first-offense misdemeanor charges.

[Question] But what can be done with the people who are released? Some commit crimes again to get back into jail, where they have a roof over their heads, food to eat and a hell to live in. Society does not accept them...

LGP: The Prison Procedure Code provides for prison rehabilitation and post-release assistance to prevent what you are talking about. This week we are having a coordinating meeting with the agriculture minister at which we will ask him to make available uncultivated land, technical support and machinery so that the former inmates can work and grow food with their families.

## Knowledge of the Law

[Question] Do you think that the people are unaware of their rights and duties?

LGP: We are going to hand out 450,000 free copies of the constitution. A low-cost edition of what I call the judicial library is being printed up so that the people can become familiar with our main laws.

[Question] Judges have neither codes nor supplies...

LGP: They are going to receive them.

## Minors

[Question] It is your ministry's responsibility to protect minors...

LGP: Who have been abandoned. The situation is frightful. The facilities the government has are in disrepair. Maranga, for example, is not a shelter for underage children; it is a concentration camp with punishment cells, which I have gotten rid of.

[Question] How is it being remodeled?

LGP: There is a very interesting program in Maranga. A group of people from the private sector have been really generous and are preparing farmland, setting up gardens on arid land, humanizing Maranga...

[Question] Who are they?

LGP: They have asked to remain anonymous. I respect their wishes. They are installing a modern kitchen at a cost of 800 million soles...They are painting the window frames and collecting clothing for the children lodged there...

#### Consulting Commission

[Question] What is the mission of the ministry's Consulting Commission?

LGP: The Consulting Commission is chaired by Dr Edmundo Haya de la Torre and comprises the country's leading jurists. As its name indicates, it is a group of authorities with whom I can consult and who can enlighten me with their wisdom, their experience and their high-mindedness.

[Question] Is it true that a new organic law of the Judiciary is in the works?

LGP: Yes it is. We will be sending the bill to the legislature.

[Question] Will you consult with the Judiciary?

LGP: A representative from the Supreme Court is on the drafting committee.

[Question] What is happening with the Minors Code?

LGP: It will be ready in 30 days. A commission chaired by Dr Chunga Lamonja is working on it.

[Question] What other bills are you drafting?

LGP: The kidnapping law, the new Penal Code and the new Criminal Procedure Code.

#### Adoptions

[Question] There was a big scandal a few years ago about adoptions. What is your policy in this regard?

LGP: During the first 6 months of this year requests were filed for the adoption of 500 minor children, 50 of them foreigners. Only six adoptions were processed. The procedure has been corrupt and full of red tape. We have set up a commission made up of representatives of juvenile court judges, the attorney general's office, the Catholic Church, the Juvenile Police, etc to draft an adoptions bill. Adoptions will be centralized in the INABIF.

## New Offices

[Question] When are you moving to your new offices?

LGP: We are in the process of moving. But the building is owned by the Banco Continental, which belongs to the government. The ministry will occupy floors 5 to 12. There is no bureaucracy being created.

## Autonomy

[Question] There is a consensus on improving the administration of justice and also on respecting the autonomy of the Judiciary. What is your view on these matters?

LGP: We are respectful of the autonomy and independence of the Judiciary as a guarantee of democracy and the rule of law. President Alan Garcia has proclaimed this. But we cannot turn a blind eye to the shortcomings of the court system. Under Article 211 of the Constitution, the president of the republic is empowered to demand that the courts administer justice promptly. And pursuant to this power the president has constantly urged the Judiciary to speed up its trials, an appeal that is justified in light of the statistics...

[Question] What is the mission of the Justice Ministry in your opinion?

LGP: The minister of justice is the liaison with the Judiciary, and it is his duty to make sure that the law and justice prevail. When the Executive Branch calls for a prompter administration of justice, it is merely echoing a demand of the citizenry.

8743

CS0: 3348/8

PERU

## TACNA CHAMBER SUGGESTS UPDATING OF BORDER TREATIES

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Sep 85 p A-9

[Article by Prisea Vilchez, special correspondent: "New Agreement Suggested to End Ecosystem of Illegal Trade"]

[Text] Tacna, September--In the opinion of the Tacna Chamber of Commerce and Industry, one of the first actions the government should take is the updating, revision or amendment of the 1941 border treaty which covers smuggling.

It feels that the government should adopt precise policies and strategies in a new agreement in order to end the ecosystem of informal or illegal trade. The three main factors that encourage that system must be kept in mind: the establishment of a free zone in Chile; unfair price competition; and the system of customs control.

It indicated: "When analyzing these factors, we see that the last two are controllable since they are endogenous factors of national competition. By changing one of those factors--or both in a complementary way--we can stop this illegal trade."

It added that an effective system of control should be established with well-paid personnel. An intelligence service must also be established so that those who violate their duties are severely punished for hurting the national economy.

So that the restriction of illegal trade does not generate a social problem, it proposed encouraging and developing agriculture with an adequate infrastructure. It also proposed promoting the formation of groups of merchants so that they can directly import foreign products under a special tariff rate. Then the imports can benefit them but not hurt national industry.

### Retail Merchants

According to the Federation of Retail Merchants, the problem of smuggling will not be solved by restricting informal merchants or closing the little markets.

Speaking in the name of that group, its president, Marcelino Torres, maintained: "The only result that will be achieved is that thousands of people will be left without work, generating a social problem. Those who really promote and direct large-scale smuggling will be left untouched."

He said that three or four families are large-scale smugglers. There are 4,000 or 5,000 small merchants who bring their products in little by little. Their capital, in most cases, is less than 2 million sols.

Torres stated that transforming the merchants into large importers is not a solution either. He indicated: "Even if they are grouped into associations, it would be impossible for them to compete with the large importers who have the complete support of multinational industries and of the authorities, not only to import but to do it by undervaluing their merchandise."

He stated that it is not appropriate to declare Tacna a free zone because "in the countries where this has been done, the workers have always been poorly paid."

#### Generate Integral Development

Hugo Ordonez Salazar, a Tacna sociologist and professor, was also consulted on this matter. He commented that one way to stop smuggling without affecting the people who depend on this type of business is to generate integral and self-supported development of the department.

He said that this involves solving the hydroelectric energy problem, completing the Tacna-La Paz highway, forming a mining-metallurgical complex with the installation of copper derivative industries and passing a mining law.

Other solutions include the crystallization of a development program for Tarata Province, the regionalization of Tacna and Moquegua and the construction of a port to free Tacna from its position as a landlocked department on the coast. This would permit it to become a natural port for exports and imports.

Ordonez proposed the following short-term measures to stop smuggling in Tacna: the regulation of illegal trade; the establishment of economic ceilings for people who trade with Arica; and a tax on this trade for departmental development.

7717

CSO: 3348/2

PERU

NEW GOVERNMENTAL APPOINTMENTS ANNOUNCED

Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 17 Sep 85 p A-5

[Text] The Ministry of Interior announced the following appointments of sub-prefects.

Huancavelica: Tayacaja--Luis Ledesma Roman; Churcampa--Salvador Ecurra Hinostraza; and Castrovirreyna--Carlos Bellido Maurologoita.

Huanuco: Huanuco--Adolfo Lara Estrada.

Ancash: Mariscal Luzuriaga--Alfonso Roca Ayala.

Ica: Chincha--Carlos Salcedo Rubio.

Ayacucho: Huanca Sancos--Federico Gonzales Cabezudo; and Vilcashuaman--Gerardo Rivero Torres.

Apurimac: Chincheros--Leonidas Preguntegui Acosta; and Cotabambas--Felipe Nicolas Salas Coronado.

Puno: Yunguyo--Rene Velazco Zapata.

Lima: Huaral--Juan Cesar Rizabal Aguedo.

Amazonas: Luya--Alberto Rodas Chuquipul.

Loreto: Maynas--Elmer Barrera Meza.

Junin: Satipo--Soyel Ruiz Caro Aviles.

Moquegua: Ilo--Raul Delgado Ramos.

Ucayali: Purus--Herminio Vasquez Westreicher.

New Appointments

The following appointments have been made:

Ministry of Industry: Departmental directors of: Lima--Juan Huerta Valverde; Amazonas--Florentino Trigo Alarado; Ancash--Waldo Enrique Rios; Huancavelica--Cesar Vicente Gonzales Grados; Huanuco--Iris Esther Ramirez Figueroa Vda. de Berrospi; Ica--Christian Denegri Uribe; Junin--Angel Mendoza Poves; Lambayeque--Miguel Angel Porro Mendoza; La Libertad--Julio Garrido Lopez; Loreto--Armando Ferreyra Lopez Aliaga; Madre de Dios--Jose Aristides Juarez Penaloza; Moquegua--Alberto Eduardo Villegas Vargas; Pasco--Godofredo Roberto Ibarra Martel; Piura--Alberto Fredy Aponte Guerrero; Puno--Lorenzo Rojas Miranda; Tumbes--Tulio Enrique Rodriguez La Coteria; and Ucayali--Jose Vela Rodriguez.

Ministry of Housing: Directorate of SEDAPIURA [Piura Potable Water and Sewerage Service]--Juan Navarro Palma (president), Godofredo Garcia Baca, Juan MacDonald Estremese and Ricardo Carrasco Sotomayor.

Presidency of the Council of Ministers: executive director of the Pichis Palcazu Special Project--Luis Llanos de la Matta.

Executive director of the special project for rehabilitation and development of the basins of the Ucayali, Chontayacu and Purus rivers--Severo del Castillo Rojas.

Executive director of the Special Puyango-Tumbes Irrigation Project--Luis Reyes Reyes.

Ministry of Justice: Executive director of the Top Directorate of INABIF [National Institute for Family Welfare]--Gloria Becerra Verastegui de Corvacho.

Public solicitor for the energy and mines sector--Alberto Ruiz Febres.

Public solicitor for the justice sector--Daniel Ameza Carranza.

Public solicitor for the interior sector--Luis Quine Arista.

Ministry of Labor: Permanent secretary of the Andean Social Security Commission--Cesar San Roman Aguirre.

Ministry of Housing: Executive president of the Materials Bank--Isaias Figueroa Escalante.

7717  
CSO; 3348/2

PERU

# BRIEFS

LARGEST OFFSHORE DRILLING PLATFORM--Talara, 11 Sep--The largest marine drilling platform will be erected in the sea in the next few days. It will be located in the continental shelf area of Pena Negra, north of Talara in El Alto district. This gigantic structure was built by Peruvian personnel from COOPTIMEP [Cooperative of Metallic Installations Production and Labor of Peru]. Its shipyards are in the Tortuga zone of the port of Talara. It is considered one of the most important in South America. Sigifredo Farias Vasquez, a veteran Negritos welder and chairman of the administrative board of COOPTIMEP, revealed that the platform is 400 meters high and is adapted to drill 18 wells using a guided system. In other words, it will drill on an angle searching for the valuable hydrocarbons. He also announced that the cooperative which has more than 600 workers has constructed more than 120 platforms in the continental shelf area since 1973. This includes the districts of Negritos, Talara, Lobitos, El Alto and Los Organos as well as the Pena Negra zone where there is a rich deposit of oil and gas of excellent quality. Belco Petroleum Company is in charge of its exploitation. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 12 Sep 85 p A-16] 7717

DIPLOMATIC SMUGGLING UNDER ATTACK--In order to fight diplomatic smuggling, the Directorate of the Treasury Police, through the Foreign Ministry, asked the embassies to help it carry out its duties until a diplomatic market is created. That market which is now under study will provide a place for members of the diplomatic corps to buy certain released products under strict control by the authorities, according to the director of the Treasury Police, PIP [Peruvian Investigative Police] Gen Rolando Llanos Oliveros, yesterday. The recent discovery of the illegal use of the release card granted to a member of the diplomatic corps from the Haitian Embassy revealed how that type of smuggling occurs. The system is to use the release card granted by the Office of Privileges of the Ministry of Foreign Relations to members of the diplomatic corps or international officials accredited in the country. The smuggler can obtain the original card with the complicity of the holder of the card, the sector responsible for issuing it can make a mistake or there might be fraud by its workers who hand over these cards to the smugglers. After bringing the merchandise into Peru, they list the name of the holder of the card in the shipping documents. They then present this document to customs. This permits them to bring certain articles into the country without being subject to inspection by the customs authorities or, in any case, without paying customs. When it involves merchandise which cannot be imported



(electrical appliances, for example), the smugglers use release cards that permit certain quotas for the diplomats and international officials (annual quotas). [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 13 Sep 85 p A-11] 7717

NEW TRUJILLO DISTRICT CREATED--The interim president of the republic, Senate President Dr Luis Alberto Sanchez, yesterday promulgated a law creating the district of Florencia de Mora in the province of Trujillo, a law that was not duly promulgated by the previous chief executive. The bill was passed by Congress this past 4 June and sent to the president for promulgation, which he failed to do before the legal deadline. Pursuant to his powers, the current president of the Senate attended to the matter, so informing the Interior Minister so that the law would be published and enforced. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 25 Sep 85 p A-8] 8743

DIRECT ASSISTANCE COMMISSION CREATED--A multisector commission created by governmental order will coordinate direct assistance for the development of the country's disadvantaged urban areas and depressed rural zones. A special project called "Direct Assistance Program" has been authorized as a budgeted program for the activities of the commission. The commission will be chaired by a representative of the president of the republic and will consist of the ministers of education, health, agriculture and housing and the head of the National Planning Institute. The supreme decree setting up the commission was published in the official gazette EL PERUANO. The decree stipulates that the program will have an Executive Board to administer the funds that are allocated to it. Both the multisector coordinating commission and the Executive Board of the "Direct Assistance Program" will operate with the support of technical and administrative personnel from the Prime Minister's office. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 23 Sep 85 p A-9] 8743

AGREEMENT WITH S. KOREA--The Peruvian and South Korean governments have signed a trade agreement by which South Korea will continue to purchase 200,000 tons of iron annually in addition to lead, copper, zinc, fish and cotton goods. South Korea will also modernize six Peruvian fishing vessels and a Peruvian private company plans to purchase from South Korea five grain carrying vessels of 30,000 to 35,000 tons each. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 0137 GMT 8 Sep 85 PY]

CIVIL GUARD DIRECTOR APPOINTED--The government has appointed Lieutenant General Raul Pareja Gutierrez as the new Civil Guard director, replacing General Juan Valdivia Fuentes. [Summary] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Aug 85 p A6 PY]

NEW VICE MINISTERS--The government has appointed Julio Pflucker as vice minister of industry, Augusto Lanatta as vice minister of tourism, and Javier Galvan as vice minister of integration. [Summary] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 27 Jul 85 p A4 PY]

DISMISSAL OF PERUVIAN GENERALS--The Peruvian Armed Forces Joint Command has announced the dismissal of two top-ranking Army generals who were found guilty--after lengthy and thorough investigations--of the

massacre of 69 peasants in Ayacucho Department. Prior to the investigations, the two generals had flatly denied on several occasions they were guilty or accomplices in this horrible crime that has shook Peru. On another occasion, the two generals denied any participation in the massacre and mass burial of the 69 peasants. During the course of an investigation carried out by the Peruvian Human Rights Commission, the generals denied they were involved in any such action. On another occasion, they again denied charges before the press and the television media. Two key witnesses saw Army troops opening common graves where they buried the 69 peasants following orders of the two generals who were later discharged. Meanwhile, the Human Rights Commission will investigate other charges of common graves in other departments. [Text] [Havana International Service in Quechua 2200 GMT 20 Sep 85]

CSO: 3348/7

ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

MITCHELL DISCUSSES REGIONAL ISSUES, U.S. ROLE IN AREA

London THE CARIBBEAN & WEST INDIES CHRONICLE in English Aug-Sep 85 pp 22-23,24

[Article by St Vincent and the Grenadines Prime Minister James Mitchell:  
"What Kind Of Carriibbean Do We Want?"]

[Text] When President Reagan launched his Carribean Basin Initiative in 1982, one of the most thoughtful responses came from James Mitchell, then in opposition in St Vincent. He examined the changes which external assistance programmes ought to produce, and tried to identify the enemies they needed to attack. He concluded that the real enemies were not political subversion from outside but the enemies already within the gates - from rigged elections, bribery and corruption to poverty, over-population and under-education. Mitchell is now Prime Minister of St Vincent, and his thesis has lost none of its cogency.

Not since the Churchill-Roosevelt deal exchanging destroyers for land bases has there been any serious US planning in the Caribbean. Once more security brings the US-Caribbean relationship into focus: President Reagan has announced the Caribbean Basin Initiative (CBI).

In 1940, the enemy was clearly distinguishable and equally recognised to be such, both by the Caribbean and the United States. In 1982, however, although the US may be single-minded in its position, the Caribbean with its political diversity cannot agree on a common enemy.

The recent decades of separate independence, and all the opportunities missed at political union, have created the opportunity for multiple sovereignty and in turn the right of the various Caribbean states to conflicting foreign policies.

Although under the umbrella of the Caribbean Community there is the pious hope of foreign policy coordination, in fact, this has been confined to securing trade preferences or jobs for the boys in the international agencies. Many a plenary session of a Caribbean Foreign Ministers meeting will issue a grand communique on a common position, but in practice, ministers are quite capable of striking their country's bilateral deal in private, much to the embarrassment of foreign governments

dealing with the Caribbean. A lot of time and effort can be wasted in trying to help the Caribbean if, from the outset, this insularity is not recognised. President Reagan's Caribbean Basin Initiative must, therefore, first of all come to terms with the heterogeneous nature of the sovereign states in the region, and their conflicting priorities.

Lest the underlying intention of the Caribbean Basin Initiative be to maintain the status quo in the Caribbean, I would like to point out that the status quo in the Caribbean is one of poverty. To talk, therefore, of maintaining the status quo means to advocate reinforcing poverty. Policies of assistance to these islands must therefore guide change, or at least encourage the need for change. The political parties of the centre seeking orderly change are the natural allies of a self-confident America, and not those imposing so-called stability on a starving population.

The low economic level of the vast majority of our people remains the basic problem. Massive financial assistance is essential. But merely pumping money will not of itself improve matters. The Caribbean Basin Initiative will be mainly money down the drain if the inherent weaknesses of the region and the specific problems of each state are ignored. Corruption and incompetent administration steadily consume huge portions of well-intentioned aid money; but I propose to discuss some of the other factors which drastically diminish the value of aid.

The population explosion negates many of the hard-earned tax dollars poured into the region. Our population is doubling every 20 years. Can any of us really cope with a Caribbean population twice its present size by the turn of the century? Barbados, the citadel of common sense in the Caribbean, is the only island that has announced, and proudly, nil population growth. Unfortunately, the announcement of such a target in many islands could trigger a riot.

In projecting the quality of life desired in the Caribbean, we must have the courage to ask the question: Just how many people can these islands accommodate? Will St Vincent with a per capita income of \$250 for 115,000 people be able to cater for 230,000 by the year 2000? How can we cope with a country in which 50 per cent of the population is under 18 years and 30 per cent of the babies are produced by teenage mothers who do not even own their own bedroom?

The arguments about population control have been voiced time and time again, but as long as the problem exists, policy planners will have to come back to it, and it is important that we, the policy makers, spell out the problem clearly. We cannot expect others continually to pick up the bill for our indifference.

Finite resources cannot satisfy infinite growth. Oil crisis, lesson one. Other lessons like phosphate shortages for food production are waiting in the wings. And as elsewhere in the developing countries any development

strategy for the Caribbean that excludes an ingredient of population control will be doomed to failure.

Nor will seminars for the elite be enough. Birth control appreciation has to be part of basic education that functions within the framework of enhanced economic opportunity. Wealthy Roman Catholics the world over ignore the Pope, and the problem is left with the uneducated poor. Poverty brings instability which brings repression and states of emergency. Religious fanatics who oppose birth control support the imposition of states of emergency and all the evils which come under that heading.

Next, the brain drain! The massive capital required for our recovery needs talent for conversion into growth. When the people who know how to make money work have vanished, recovery will be slow.

The tragedy of Jamaica today is the loss of talent in the last decade. The executives, and the plumbers whose children are now at school in Miami, will not return home to start re-organising their family life. The confidence they lost in their country will not return after one election.

But above all, it is the constitutional fabric in which our islands are unsuitably clothed which is the basic impediment to improvement of our low productivity. Transported Westminster is not working in these islands. Indeed, Roy Jenkins of Social Democratic fame in Britain, enunciated in his Dimpleby lecture how the Westminster system is partly responsible even in Britain for industrial decline. No country has articulated more clearly than the United States the belief that productivity is tied to the political system. I agree. Extensive capital investment will not create self-sustaining growth in an unproductive political system, be it in Poland or Haiti.

The constitutional systems in these islands befell us while America, languishing in Vietnam psychosis, allowed Britain to excuse herself from the problems she had created on America's doorstep. I know that American diplomacy deliberately left the islands up to the British, while Britain concerned itself with abandoning the islands. Our roads were abandoned, and so were our schools. Our health services in the Windwards do not match those of Martinique between us. Thus the United States must pick up the tab for American contributory negligence over the last two decades.

Stable government, it is said, is the real basis for economic growth. But stability cannot be derived from a system that establishes a government whose authority derives from a

minority of the population. That system works in Britain where strong traditions have prohibited the unthinkable, where checks on maladministration through the press, the courts and public opinion are as strong as the government itself.

Not so in a small island where government is the main employer, the main dispenser of

patronage and the guardian of opportunity. And the financially eroded press barely exhibits a shadow of the truth. The minority government becomes paranoid, and it becomes, for example, a legal offence (and here I quote from the draft St Vincent Public Order Act) "to have an intention to bring into hatred or contempt, or to excite disaffection against the government." Furthermore, persons are to be detained who are suspected of having an intention of being about to commit an offence.

Foolish legislation, however 'legal', can be a prime cause of instability. Authoritarianism sponsored in this fashion prescribes economic chaos. Criticism is an essential nourishment for the healthy growth of a society. When laws prevent criticism we inherit the infertile territory of callousness.

Without safeguards, the Westminster system allows a minority to legislate themselves into an authoritarian regime. Effective participation of substantial areas of the population can be silenced. In the 1980 Trinidad elections, the ONR party received 84,000 votes and no seats in Parliament, while the Alliance parties won 83,000 votes and 10 seats. In the 1979 St Vincent election, opposition parties secured 46 per cent of the vote and two out of 13 seats, thereby providing the government with a two thirds majority capable of amending the constitution at will. Including those who did not vote, the mandate for the government was a mere 34 per cent of the electorate!

And St Vincent's record shows this type of power used to make the wife of a government minister the leader of the opposition.

It is within this framework of authoritarian tendencies that one must be cautious in defining security needs. Experience of Guyana has taught that defence expenditure, like elsewhere in the Third World, is not directed at the external enemy, but at the citizens themselves, especially on election day.

But however repressive a regime becomes in the preservation of its own power, it may be overthrown — witness the Shah of Iran and the Emperor of Ethiopia. Likewise, an unworkable constitution cannot be assumed forever inviolate. Much of Africa has had to adapt to new constitutions to forge their development needs.

France with its centuries of self reliance has found a new formula in our lifetime. Indeed, the French model of ensuring that the government represents more than 50 per cent of the electorate is a principle we should emulate. Nor should we forget the chaos out of which the Fifth Republic was born. And we too should be allowed our appropriate constitutions in an attempt to bring sanity to our plural heritage.

Nor will we necessarily secure the formula for stability with one thrust. Trinidad & Tobago is a case in point. Not long ago, exhaustive consultation produced the republican formula, but the sudden profusion of oil wealth has created a new round of confusion. Autonomy for Tobago has pointed to the need for decentralisation in Trinidad itself.

The heady rhetoric of self determination was supposed to come to an abrupt halt when the independence flags were hoisted, even though several elements in the society remained adrift in a sea of selfishness. Decentralisation is construed to be a threat to rulers. A free vote of autonomy is unpatriotic. But self determination is and will be a continuing process and can only be said to be realised when people enjoy a constitution that fulfils their lives.

The theory is put forward that autonomous territories will fall prey to Cuba or the Mafia as they are too small to manage themselves. But autonomists are not unmindful of the Cuban guns constantly hammering the hungry Eritreans. And those who disparage the Mafia are already victims. In St Vincent's case more money is swindled through our offshore banks from US accounts than our total annual budget!

Private agony multiplies into a public posture and in turn formulates foreign policy. The country that will help you shed your oppressor is your friend. Thus it is that internal frustration in Latin America breeds external support for the civil strife.

The ingredients of that cocktail now exist in the Caribbean. Then the United States plunges in, not when democratic principles are first negated, but in the climax of the confrontation when reasonable men have long perished. For it is always the strategy of the extreme left to destroy the centre advocating reform so that oppression matures and international socialist solidarity can be upheld as the only avenue for salvation.

Democracy is a delicate young seedling in the Caribbean. Incipient authoritarianism threatens peace. Grenada today, we must not forget, is a product of cheated elections and the collapse of institutions under repression. It

is the early signal attacks on democratic institutions that must be arrested. A sentence here or there in a law undermining free and fair elections does not seem to deserve anyone's attention — until holy hell breaks loose.

Guyana is the best example of legally perverse elections. St Vincent has just established rigid control of the electoral process by the Executive, complete with clauses to undermine the secrecy of the ballot. Heaped on these abuses, covert financing of wicked administrations simply postpones the retribution. Populations double in 20 years.

In the face of all the conflicts emerging out of our political systems, the US should be mindful of the real areas of linkage that exist between the US and the Caribbean. Hardly a tomato is grown except from seeds supplied by a US firm. The same goes for lettuce, cabbages and every vegetable. And agricultural diversification is the main prerequisite of our development. What fertile ground for American influence.

Had Britain, through its Commonwealth Development Corporation, not imposed 220 volts/50 cycles, every piece of electrical equipment would be imported from the US. Indeed, the sooner we can streamline our industrial energy to US standards, the better.

Not a single tourist arrives in the Caribbean from Eastern Europe. Our agriculture, industry and tourism are linked to North America and Europe. Sooner or later, all unproductive adventurism into other areas will come home to roost. Some 4,000 artists and writers from our area went to Cuba for Carifesta. Had such a festival been held in New York, the authorities would still be searching for those specialising in criticism of US culture.

Every single family in the Caribbean has relatives in the US or Canada. For all these influences, how can we not feel close to the US or Canada? However, ill-considered foreign policy by the United States in particular can destroy the influence of all these natural economic influences.

Tyranny, victimisation, arbitrary use of official power, creating a terrible living situation in the islands, if supported by the US, will drive the population to emotional refuge elsewhere. The errors of policy that have created El Salvador stare at us in the Caribbean and Latin America today. Let me repeat, the advocates of change and reform are the natural allies of the US.

It is within the framework of guiding change that lie opportunities for profitable investment through careful planning.

Development is about people. It ought not to be simply defined in terms of architecture,

traffic jams and joint communiques. When I look at the castles on an island like Mustique, rising out of the exquisite development plans, and compare them with the food on the plates of the original inhabitants nearby, I wonder — what does progress mean?

Capital injection that returns us to the slave plantation constitutes the path of despair. Had there been the slightest instinct for fair play or decency, some measure of parallel progress would have been possible. Not slums and castles!

I offer the concept of parallel progress between the investor and those on whom effort is invested, as a fundamental objective in any planning criteria.

One real area where the developed countries of this hemisphere can help us is in the field of education. Perhaps the greatest difference between rich and poor countries of the world is in the quality of education. And the quality of a people's education affects seriously the quality of their lives. The higher fees for foreign students in the advanced countries is the saddest inequity imposed on poor countries in recent years.

That you should impose this burden on our educational opportunity makes us all poorer. The foreign student of Canadian technology will tend to enhance Canadian exports to his country. And to deny us a glimpse of your standards of academic excellence enshrines chauvinism at home as a national objective and clothes our intellectuals with their unnecessary mantle of self-righteousness. Scholarships for study at all levels in academic and technical institutions in the US, Canada and Mexico and Venezuela should be a cornerstone of the Caribbean Basin Initiative. They should be awarded by a process of searching at the local levels, not simply allocated to governments as a hand-out to the children of ministers, their cronies or their friends.

In the battle for the minds of the future generation of leaders what a great opportunity for influence is lost by not providing the opportunity to study at your institutions. It is not a relevant argument against scholarships that the trained people do not return.

Some do, and those that do have more influence than their numbers suggest. And, in any event, if they join the migrant community their influence at home cannot be ignored. A good education lasts a lifetime, or more, as parents influence their children; and invest-

ment in people is what development is all about. Investment in talent will in the long run yield better dividends than guns for the coast-guard. The battle for the mind begins with the mind.

President Reagan has announced new aid for the Caribbean. How will this aid be dispensed? Will existing institutions be used or will a new expensive bureaucracy be created? Will the self-perpetuating Conference Industry simply produce more resolutions, more documents for libraries, more long-winded radio announcements?

Bilateral aid to the countries directly, using criteria clearly established, with defined performance schedules and re-evaluation mechanisms, will be the optimum way to address the problem of aid dispensation. Care must be taken to identify the correct projects — those that will improve the lot of the poor. Very often, aid only reaches the rich in poor countries.

Evaluation should continue throughout the life of the project and continuity should be built in, irrespective of the government in power. Many Caribbean governments abandon projects started by their predecessors simply because of spite. Barbados abandoned a cement project but has to come back to it. I will give you an example in my constituency of the Grenadines. A study for an airport in Bequia was undertaken by British and Barbadian consulting firms along with the Caribbean Meteorological Institute and was completed in May, 1974 at a cost of \$130,000. This followed the \$600,000 Tourism Development Strategy in May, 1972, which also recommended an airport. When the government changed, the project was dropped although no other project could help the people of the island more. Similarly, the airport built

on the island of Canouan in 1974 has not yet been declared a port of entry for similar reasons. In the meantime, less feasible projects with less social benefit and creating more burdens on the tax base get priority.

President Reagan hopes to stimulate more private investment in the region. Private investors will do well to be guided more by the experience of existing investors in the country rather than by flowery assurances by government ministers at banquets in Washington.

Let them research the government's performance, for example — how long does it take to get project approval? Are letters to the prime minister answered? Is bribery expected?

We are pleased that the United States has come to recognise the need for a new initiative in the Caribbean and has rediscovered the importance of these islands. I trust that the value attached to the Caribbean will be matched by the calibre of US diplomatic personnel assigned to the region. There is no substitute for intelligent understanding of the region's aspirations and this could well prevent frequent spasms of diplomatic epilepsy.

I started this paper indicating how difficult it is for the United States and the Caribbean to find a common definition of the enemy.

President Reagan has identified the enemy as a foreign source. In my view, the enemies are already within our gates: Rigged and unfair elections, bribery, corruption, poverty, overpopulation, constitutions that cheat large sections of the people, incompetence at the highest level, and the despair of the half-educated. Those who help us destroy these enemies will be our friends.

CSO: 3298/040

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

NAR BELIEVES ELECTIONS WILL BE CALLED IN DECEMBER

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 5 Oct 85 p 1

[Article by Tia Taitt]

[Text]

AN EARLY December election has been predicted by the National Alliance for Reconstruction (NAR). A leading member of the party told the EXPRESS that there were several factors which indicated this possibility.

Among them were the expected drop in the price of oil following the threat by Saudi Arabia to increase production. This, they felt, would weaken Government's financial position and it would be necessary to go to the polls before the full impact of the remedial actions are felt in

the country.

The party held a news conference yesterday at the Albion Street headquarters of the Organisation for National Reconstruction (ONR) at which it announced its strenuous involvement in the Voters Registration Update with the Elections and Boundaries Commission (EBC).

As a result of a two-hour meeting held between Chairman of the EBC and several NAR officials last Friday, the NAR will be provided with a progress report on the Update.

This was revealed at the Press Conference held by Deputy Political Leaders of the NAR, Karl Hudson-Phillip and Basdeo Panday and

Chairman of the NAR, Herbert Atwell at the ONR's headquarters on Albion Street, yesterday.

Panday said that the NAR will be receiving a list of the names of all new voters and names that have been deleted from the registration list.

He added that the NAR will also hold registration forms at some of its centres for those persons who find they have not been visited by the Itinerant Assistant Registration Officers or who feel they have not been registered.

Hudson-Phillip said Hyatali had taken an important step to acknowledging that the NAR as a major political party should be involved

in the survey. But he added that since government controlled the EBC's budget and employed its staff, the NAR's focus will be on whether the commission is in firm control of the entire exercise.

He complimented Hyatali for "bringing the NAR in" at a stage where it could check the work the IAROs were doing.

Said he, "The EBC should be a body in which all sections of the community have confidence. You would not get total confidence in it unless the major political parties are represented in the exercise."

CSO: 3298/041



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

UNION LEADER WEEKES HITS GOVERNMENT PROBE OF VIOLENCE

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 5 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

OILFIELDS Workers Trade Union (OWTU) leader George Weekes expressed "total shock" at the action of Prime Minister George Chambers in setting up a committee to investigate violence on the picket line "simply on the basis of a complaint of one organisation."

Weekes said that the Prime Minister did not even consult with the OWTU about the complaint but rushed off to appoint a committee. Weekes totally rejected the complaint, saying that workers never inflicted any violence on employers but pointed to evidence which he said suggested that the employers were inflicting violence on workers. Weekes said that the employers were using the state police to stop legal picketing, noting that this was in itself "South African tactics."

Weekes said he had written to Chambers calling for a meeting with the entire trade union movement on the question of the economy. Said Weekes: "We want a meeting with all the trade unions and the Government. Tell us who was responsible for the downturn in the economy. Tell us what is the true position of the economy and then we will talk about how each sector in the economy could shoulder this matter of sacrifice. But please do not allow the workers alone to shoulder the sacrifice. Let us devise a system to share the burden."

Weekes said that this should have been the approach of the Prime Minister from the start. He said that a committee set up to investigate violence on the picket line could not solve the problem but earnest dialogue could.

Weekes said that the real and invisible government of the country was the business community. He accused the Trinidad and Tobago Labour Congress of "sitting in silence while the employers drive a wedge between the labour movement and the workers." Said Weekes: "I am often led to the belief that the Congress is a silent partner of the employers in the move to harass our members."

Weekes said that the OWTU had been standing in defence of the country. Said he: "We have by our action been on the side of equal rights, stability and peace in the country. When we took up the case of the Dunlop workers in Point Fortin, this was in the interest of the ruling party as well since that party had a great deal of support in that area. The OWTU will continue to stand up for the rights of workers regardless of the consequences."

He charged that there was a "grand conspiracy" to destabilise the OWTU.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

UNIONS, LEADERS CRITICIZED IN PRESS, BY COLLEAGUE

'Irresponsible Behavior' Charge

Port-of-Spain SUNDAY EXPRESS in English 6 Oct 85 p 8

[Editorial]

[Text]

"WE HAVE to maintain the workers' standard of living" is the new call to arms that trade union leaders use to justify their refusal to face reality. This is, of course, the most ar-rant nonsense, for if we are to avert economic col-lapse and adjust to the fact that our former wasteful patterns of consumption simply cannot be sus-tained, then everybody's standard of living has to change.

Unfortunately, the Gov-ernment, which has never been noted for its decisiv-ness, is clearly unwilling to do more than talk around the facts of life to trade union leaders in this period of election run-up and the so-called militants continue to beat their chests while in the process more and more employees are thrown on the bread-line.

In fact, it has now reached the point where the secretary of the La-

bour Congress has been threatened with dismissal because he commented in a television interview re-cently, "There are a lot of h o t h e a d s in the movement" and "any tra-de union leader who calls a strike at this time must have his head examined."

It is not that Mr Towns- end who made the threat can seriously refute the accuracy of this statement. It is rather that he sees such truths as contributing to the enlightenment of employees and making it less likely that they would respond to calls for sus-tained and sometimes ille-gal confrontation.

If this country is suc-cessfully to weather the economic downturn which in our view is far from having levelled off, then a new and serious emphasis has to be placed on job security and productivity. Fortunately, and perhaps intuitively, the vast major-ity of the work force un-

derstands this. The real problem appears to be at the level of the trade union leadership who feel them-selves threatened by the pressures which now make large and (in some cases any) wage increases a thing of the past.

What they fail to under-stand is that by persisting with their efforts to get "blood out of stone" they are compounding the eco-nomic deterioration and adding to the number of people who will lose their jobs. In some cases it is apparent that they simply do not care.

The absurd behaviour at the port is a classic case in point. Having recently been the beneficiaries of a most generous award by the Public Utilities Com-mission (PUC), which we maintain should never have been given as long as their rampant inefficien-cies continue to exist, the port was closed down be-cause stevedores insisted

that they be paid for days on which they did not work due to their own decision not to clock their cards.

That so small a number of people could again hold the country to ransom is a commentary on our political leadership, for the costs of this strike represents yet another setback for the economy. But more than this, it will be passed on to the ordinary man and woman who will have to pay for it. Marginal companies will be pressed further to the wall and, as the Trinidad Manufacturers Association

(TTMA) found it necessary to point out, some of their members would be forced to lay off staff due to shortages of raw material if the port remained closed.

We simply cannot continue on this path of self-destruction. If those who hold jobs, whether at the port or elsewhere, continue to indulge in such irresponsible behaviour, they must be dealt with firmly. The extreme industrial action taken by those who refused to work with such dire consequences to the entire country should never have been counte-

nanced.

The fact that such arrogance has been permitted time and again and that they have in the past got away with it makes it all the more important that the Chairman of the Port Authority should now finally say, stop; enough.

We commend the Authority on its stand to refuse to pay wages for the days on which the men refused to work. They must in all circumstances maintain this position and act even more decisively if any future attempt is made to bring port operations to a halt.

#### Blast at Leaders for Backing Government

Port-of-Spain EXPRESS in English 7 Oct 85 p 3

[Text]

ALL Trinidad Sugar and General Workers Trade Union general secretary Sam Maharaj charged that some labour leaders criticise the Government for corruption and anti-worker attitudes, yet at election time these very leaders instruct their members to support the ruling party.

Maharaj was opening the joint Conference of Shop Stewards and Branch Officers (COSSABO) of nine trade unions at the Rienzi complex in Couva on Saturday. Said Maharaj: "Some of our labour and other leaders criticise and lead demonstrations against the Government for years, accusing it of all kinds of corruption and anti-worker attitudes, but come election time and these same leaders instruct their officers and members to support the very government that has been oppressing them."

Maharaj said the trade union movement

cannot continue to confine itself to negotiating for higher wages and better working conditions for its members. He said the trade unions must now find ways to develop all aspects of man's needs.

Said Maharaj: "Workers must be made to realise that the industrial struggle is but one aspect of the total struggle to achieve happiness; that the political struggle is an equally important aspect of that total and single struggle to improve their lives."

Maharaj said that the most important challenge facing the labour movement was the need for labour unity. Said he: "It is rather strange that while all trade union leaders seem to agree that unity of the labour movement is essential, that unity continues to elude us. The cold fact remains that while the labour movement remains divided and weak, the employers are consolidating their positions in order to perpetuate their injustices against the workers."

CSO: 3298/041

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

MAHABIR DISCUSSES NASSAU UNDERSTANDING, URGES REVIEW

Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 7 Oct 85 p 1

[Text]

**TORONTO, Sun., (Cana):**  
TRINIDAD and Tobago, under fire by its Caribbean Community (Caricom) partners for failure to implement a trade agreement called the Nassau Understanding, wants a review of the package drawn up to revitalize sagging intra-regional trade, External Affairs Minister Errol Mahabir said here.

Mr Mahabir told reporters at a news conference that while the measures agreed to by Caricom leaders at their July 1984 Bahamas Summit seemed the optimum package then, subsequent developments in the world and regional economy, particularly Trinidad and Tobago's, highlighted the need for a review.

There was need for a complete examination of the requirements which each of the countries were expected to meet to determine how they would impact on those countries if they were implemented fully, he said.

Caricom leaders, at their annual Summit in Barbados three months ago, set August 31 as the revised deadline for implementation of the accord by all member States. Antigua and Barbuda, Belize, St Lucia, and Trinidad did not meet the deadline, but since then, all except Trinidad have either partially implemented or given firm word that they intend to do so soon.

The Nassau package proposes the removal of all barriers to free intra-Caricom trade, increases tariffs on a specified list of foreign goods to protect regionally-made equivalents and in the case of the Leeward and Windward Islands, raises from 20 to 30 per cent the domestic content of their manufactures seeking duty free entry in fellow Caricom markets.

Responding to charges against Port-of-Spain that it was being protectionist by maintaining a licensing regime for imports, Mr Mahabir said it was the developed countries such as the United States and European nations that had instituted protectionist policies in the first place.

The consequences of those policies had their adverse effects on developing countries, he added. As a result, he said there had been a gener-

al decline in economic activities in developing countries to the extent that some developing countries had to protect themselves from other developing countries.

The licensing regime did not apply only to Caricom goods, he said, but to all foreign exports.

Mr Mahabir downplayed the new problems facing Caricom as a result of the failure to implement the Nassau package.

"All regional integration movements have had their problems from time to time. Caricom has had minor problems when you consider the problems which the EEC (European Economic Community) has faced over the years," he remarked.

**A FACT OF LIFE**

Interviewed by William Doyle Marshall, "Guardian" correspondent in Toronto, Mr. Mahabir said it was easier for some countries in the Caribbean to implement the accord because they did not have the kind of labour force and comprehensive manufacturing sector that Trinidad and Tobago had.

He said that Trinidad and Tobago had already taken a number of measures to implement the accord but, nevertheless, he described ex-

change control as "a fact of life in Trinidad and Tobago" and were destined to remain so for some time, "until we get out of our difficult economic circumstances."

He referred to the last Budget in which a 12 per cent stamp duty was introduced on all imported products including goods from Caricom countries.

"To the extent that we have also put the duty on Caricom products we have not fully implemented that part of the treaty," he said.

One of the things they had to take into account was the dual currency in Jamaica, he said.

While in Toronto, Mr. Mahabir took the opportunity to impress upon former nationals the investment possibilities open to them in Trinidad and Tobago. He said a number of barriers were being removed to facilitate foreign investment, including changes in the bureaucracy, the Alien Land Holdings Ordinance and problems with visas and licences.

CSO: 3298/041

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

CANADIAN BUSINESSMEN CITE JOINT-VENTURE PROJECTS

FL051531 Bridgetown CANA in English 1450 GMT 5 Oct 85

[Text] Port of Spain, 5 Oct (CANA)--Some 15 local joint venture projects in the areas of asphalt, oil, gas, agro-industry and pharmaceuticals have been identified for follow-up action by a Canadian business mission which has just ended four days of talks with potential investment partners here, the organisers said.

Barry Yeates, regional programme manager for the Canadian Association--Latin America and the Caribbean (CALA), coordinators of the mission, told a news conference the 10 businessmen had made substantial contacts with their local counterparts.

There were individual appointments with almost 50 businesses, said Yeates. I think there were nearly a dozen plant sites or headquarters visits in addition to that...I would say there were...15, which we can calculate to this point; about 15 excellent opportunities coming out of them...so I think you could say, after all, that was a pretty darn good batting average.

No details were given of the types of investment, the sums of money involved or the likelihood of firm commitments.

Trinidad and Tobago, a 5,128 square kilometre twin island republic, is moving to diversify its oil-based economy in the face of the fluctuating fortunes of this sector after a mid-70's boom. Petroleum accounts for 90 percent of the country's foreign exchange.

Asked to compare the investment opportunities available here with the rest of the Caribbean, Yeates said CALA had coordinated a whirlwind tour through the Caribbean two or three weeks ago and there's quite a difference in scale...and threr seems to be a difference in attitude.

I think you're looking at a population of 1.2 million--that is helpful. You're looking at a population that seems to be receptive to Canadian investment, Canadian businessmen here; I think that's very helpful.

You're looking at a population which has an established industrial base, a very literate and capable population as well. So I think that for all those

reasons, this seems to me a very attractive proposition to come to Trinidad.

Some of the other islands are much, much smaller and so there can be some inherent problems in scale there which I think are less likely to happen here, therefore making it more attractive.

CSO: 3298/042

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

BRIEFS

ATTACKS ON INDUSTRIALISTS' HOMES--Police are investigating the bombing of the homes of two senior officials of Metal Box (Trinidad) Limited and the mistaken scorching of a third in two separate attacks in East Trinidad early yesterday morning. According to investigators, two molotov cocktails were thrown at the home of Mrs. Janice Suite, Metal Box Personnel Manager, at Begonia Drive, La Florissante, D'Abadie, around 1.15 a.m. yesterday. This was the second attack on Mrs. Suite within the past three weeks. On September 18, her Mazda 626 car was damaged while she attended a meeting on violence called by the Employers' Consultative Association at the Trinidad Hilton. On September 30, another device was thrown into the home of Harry Ramroop, Production supervisor at Metal Box, at Orange Field Road, Carapichaima, Damage was done to the front of the house. Employees of Metal Box Ltd. have been on strike for the past eight weeks outside the company's plant at Macoya Road, Tunapuna. About 270 workers have been affected by the strike. [Excerpts] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 9 Oct 85 p 13]

SUGAR EXPORTS--Sugar exports to the United Kingdom, US and France during May-August 1985, showed increase from 59,182 tonnes to 66,020 tonnes, according to a release from the Sugar Manufacturers Association. Total sugar production from the beginning of the year until May 1985 stood at 97,408 tonnes including 16,477 tonnes of granulated sugar manufactured from imported sugar. By August this year, total production figure increased up to 105,185 tonnes, which also included 24,234 tonnes of granulated sugar. Exports of sugar to the UK, US and France which stood at 59.182 tonnes in May, rose to 66,020 tonnes in June and remained at that level until August. Local sale of sugar was 16,307 tonnes in May, rising to 20,198 tonnes in June and a further 29,107 tonnes in July, a figure which remained steady in August. [Text] [Port-of-Spain TRINIDAD GUARDIAN in English 9 Oct 85 p 13]

S. KOREAN MISSION--Port-of-Spain, 4 Oct (CANA)--A delegation from the South Korean private sector is to visit Trinidad and Tobago in mid-November to look into investment and joint venture opportunities here, the External Affairs Ministry has announced. South Korean Foreign Minister Won Kyung-Lee and his Trinidad and Tobago counterpart, Errol Mahabir, discussed the visit during a meeting in New York where the 40th Session of the UN General Assembly is taking place. The Korean minister said that the mission comes out of a recent trip to that country by Prime Minister George Chambers, when the two states signed an agreement on economic and technical cooperation. The Koreans will be the



Trinidad and Tobago leaders' trade and investment-seeking overseas tour [sentence as received]. The Taj Hotel group of India has already sent a team here for exploratory discussions. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1423 GMT 4 Oct 85 FL]

EUROPEAN BANK LOAN--Port-of-Spain, 4 Oct (CANA)--The European Investment Bank (EIB) has announced a loan of 12 million European Currency Units (ECU's)--8.7 million U.S. dollars--to the state-owned Trinidad and Tobago Development Finance Company (TTDFC) to help it to finance smaller scale industrial and tourism ventures here. The Port-of-Spain office of the Commission of the European Communities said the loan has been made available for 12 years at 5.45 percent, after deducting an interest subsidiary which is financed from European Development Fund (EDF) resources. The loan, aimed at Trinidad and Tobago's previously under-played tourism sector, coincides with a new thrust in tourism by the government. TTDFC was set up by government in 1970--such as a number of other state agencies--to develop specific activities of the economy and assist undertakings in the industrial, agro-industrial, tourism and service sectors. TTDFC has on two previous occasions--in 1978 and 1980--attracted loans worth 10 million ECU's in all from the EIB. [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1412 GMT 4 Oct 85 FL]

CSO: 3298/042

TURKS & CAICOS

CDB REPORT FOR 1984 SHOWS STRENGTHENING ECONOMY

Grand Turk TURKS & CAICOS NEWS in English 8 Aug 85 p 6

[Text]

THE Caribbean Development Bank's annual report for 1984 says the economy of the Turks and Caicos Islands strengthened. Construction activities stepped up, tourism continued on the upswing and the performance of the fisheries improved.

After noting the completion of Club Med on Providenciales and the construction of other hotel accommodation in South Caicos and Grand Turk, the report says that arrivals of stop-over visitors increased by more than 20 p.c. from 14,216 in 1983. With the opening of Club Med arrivals should exceed 20,000 by the end of 1985, it adds.

Despite over-fishing and inadequate storage and marketing arrangements, exports of lobster and conch increased by 9.8 p.c. in 1983-84 to 861,750 pounds, compared with 785,000 pounds in 1982-83.

Fishery products accounted for all merchandise export earnings in 1983-84, which increased to \$3 million from \$2.5 million.

Building materials and ancillary capital equipment accounted for the increase in

imports which rose from \$20.9 million in 1982-83 to \$26.3 million in 1983-84.

The United States remained the principal supplier of goods and absorbed all exports, which comprised lobster, conch and small quantities of scale fish.

Government finances, the report notes, came under pressure in 1984 with the closure in February of the U.S. base which contributed 9.2 p.c. to local revenue in 1983-84.

Local revenue was estimated to increase from \$8.3 million in 1983-84 to \$9.5 million in 1984-85, buoyed by an increase of 16.5 p.c. from customs duties which accounted for 41.7 p.c. of local revenue in 1983-84.

Recurrent expenditure was estimated at \$11.8 million, compared with actual expenditure of \$9.9 million in 1983-84. In consequence, the deficit on current account was expected to widen from \$1.6 million in 1983-84 to \$2.2 million in 1984-85. U.K. budgetary aid, amounting to \$1.7 million in 1984-85, would meet part of the revenue shortfall, the report concludes.

It points out that the Caribbean Development Bank approved a second loan of \$2 million to provide loans of up to \$10,000 to persons pursuing courses in priority training at the post-secondary level. By the end of 1984, \$75,000 had been committed and 14 students assisted.

"The objective," adds the report, "is to assist in providing the trained manpower resources required for economic and social development."

With the help of a loan of \$1.22 million, the Islands completed improvements to the port facility at Providenciales to facilitate cargo movements into the island. The project involved construction of a quay wall providing two berths and a roll-on roll-off ramp. By the end of 1984, says the report, the port was earning revenues for the first time in its history.

The bank report also gives details of a \$1.39 million loan for the 28-room beach annex of the Hotel Kittina. It shows pictures of the completed construction and of the hotel's salt/fresh water tanks and pressure pumps of its reverse osmosis unit.

CSO: 3298/030

TURKS & CAICOS

OPPOSITION DPM REITERATES DEMAND FOR ELECTIONS

FL111240 Bridgetown CANA in English 1958 GMT 10 Sep 85

[Text] Nassau, 10 Sep--The official opposition in the Turks and Caicos Islands wants the government of that British colony to call new elections in an attempt to clean up the country's image as a haven for drug traffickers.

Clement Howell, leader of the People's Democratic Movement (PDM), said investor confidence in the Turks and Caicos had fallen off sharply after former Chief Minister Norman Saunders, former Minister of Commerce Stafford Missick and Aulden Smokey Smith, formerly parliamentary secretary in the Ministry of Works, were convicted on drug charges in the United States.

Howell claimed that company registration--one of the island's big revenue earners--had dropped by 20 percent because of negative publicity surrounding the arrests.

The PDM leader, accompanied by parliamentarians Oswald Skippings and Lewis Astwood, was in the Bahamas to drum up moral support from Turks islanders living here.

We are suffering because of many present and would-be investors have little or no confidence in the remaining element of the existing government, Skippings pointed out.

The group said the integrity of the Turks and Caicos needed to be restored as quickly as possible, but the new Chief Minister, Nathaniel Francis, continued to ignore appeals for a general election.

Howell noted, however, that there had been a noticeable decline in drug trafficking since the arrests.

Saunders was jailed for eight years and Missick for 10, and both fined U.S. 50,000 dollars. Smith is to be tried in November.

CSO: 3298/030

TURKS & CAICOS

EDITORIALS SCORE ATTITUDE OF GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS

Grand Turk TURKS & CAICOS NEWS in English 15, 22 Aug 85 p 4

[From parts 3 and 4 of an ongoing series of editorials entitled "Where Are We Headed" on "Conditions" in the islands following the arrest of former government officials in the United States on drug charges]

[Excerpts]

What does it take to run a little colony of eight thousand people? How much imagination does it take to get our economy going, to put people back to work so that they may live as decent citizens in their own homeland?

There are an estimated forty thousand Turks and Caicos Islanders living abroad, and every week more and more are leaving for the Bahamas and United States. Not because they want to; but because economic conditions are forcing them to leave. The government of any country whose citizens have to leave home in order to make a living elsewhere ought to be ashamed of itself. But there are some governments that have no shame . . . especially when it is dominated by diminutive men whose only concern is to preserve power and glory for themselves.

There are some of our leaders who don't actually care that many of our people are leaving. As far as they are concerned the lesser the number of Islanders left behind, the lesser is the threat to their positions. How do we expect to build a nation when we are losing our most valuable resource — our people? Truth is, our leaders are not interested in nation-building. They like the prestige and the power the system confers on them when they become elected, but the responsibility of elevating these islands from their impoverished state to a position that every native can be proud of, they care little about.

Why is it that none of the major investment proposals announced for these islands in the

last four years have materialised? To name a few: What happened to the Holiday Inn for Grand Turk? Hyatt and Sheraton for Provo? Aragonite for West Caicos? And God-knows-what for South Caicos? Is it all just a fortuitous twist of circumstances that no major proposal under the present Government has materialised? Is our Government at fault? Or are there certain people above them who are deliberately blocking every big proposal that comes to their attention because they think the Islands have enough development?

**THERE** is a growing number of people in the Islands who believe that the hard times we are facing in the Turks and Caicos are the result of a carefully conceived plan by certain elements to keep these islands poor and backward. And more and more we find ourselves agreeing with this trend of thinking, especially when we recall the numerous proposals that have been turned down in the last few years, or when we talk to disillusioned investors who were given the cold shoulder by some of our officials when they submitted investment ideas.

We have often heard it said by certain people that they would not like these islands to develop too rapidly. Strangely enough, the people who make these statements don't belong here. They are usual-

ly someone sent out here by the British Overseas Services on a glorified vacation, or some foreigner who has knocked about these islands for a number of years exploiting our people and fears that rapid development would bring an influx of people here who might compete with them.

What amazes us about these people is how they are able to drive through the slums of Grand Turk to their mansions on the hill and not be disturbed by the poverty and squalour that exists all around them.

Sadly, this is the attitude many of our leaders adopt towards their own people. They don't care how much suffering exists around them. As long as they are doing well for themselves and their families, their attitude is "to hell with everyone else."

And then we believe that our poverty is being perpetuated by a grand design and scheme by certain people in London who would like to hang on to the nostalgia of the glory days when "the sun didn't set on the British Union Jack." Now, we know that administrators sent out here by the Foreign Office are quick to point out that Britain would like to grant independence to any of its territories that are ready for it. But these officials also know quite well that we are not ready for it, and with the small amount of aid we get from Britain we will never be ready for it.

CSO: 3298/030

TURKS & CAICOS

BRIEFS

ASSURANCES ON DRUGS--The British government has been told that every effort will be made to ensure that the Islands will not be used for drugs transshipments following the conviction of the two former ministers in Miami. The message was given by Chief Minister Mr. Nathaniel Francis, the Minister of Commerce, Tourism and Development, Mr. Ariel Misick, and Minister of Public Works and Utilities, Mr. Alden Durham on their recent visit to London. Mr. Timothy Renton, the U.K. minister responsible for drugs, is to look into the possibility of Britain providing a patrol vessel to help control the narcotics trade. "The vessel would also be used for fisheries patrol purposes," Mr. Misick told the News. Mr. Misick said that the extra \$700,000 from the United Kingdom for capital projects, announced in the budget speech, would be linked to create new employment in areas hit hardest by the arrests. He added that the three ministers had also discussed with Mr. Renton the desire to enter into a treaty with the United States which would mean that documents connected with criminal proceedings would be released to the relevant authorities in the United States. [Text] [Grand Turk TURKS & CAICOS NEWS in English 15 Aug 85 p 2]

CSO: 3298/030

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